STARS STRIPES.



U.S. bases give Gls alternatives to driving drunk



Sports in '04: Red Sox part of banner year

Back page, 39-43

Volume 62, No. 257 © SS 2005 G

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2004 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2005

r, right, and body interteness

5 million in Asia said to lack life's basics

\$40M needed for tsunami survivors; death toll tops 117,000 Page 13

Calm moment in the midst of a storm



U.S. Army Sgt. Mark Cox of the 101st Airborne Division and his wife, Dawn, from Crawfordsville, Ind., laugh as they hug inside a hangar after Cox returned to Fort Campbell, Ky., from Iraq, on Jan. 7.

Fierce fighting in Iraq, a stabilization operation in Haiti, more questions on armor, force protection. The military endures a grueling 2004.

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To our readers: Stars and Stripes will not be published on New Year's Day. Look for it again on Jan. 2, 2005.

STARS STRIPES. COMING SOON



Be a man — get a purse



Scene on Sunday

Lindsay Lohan not typical teen

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Schiavo right-to-die case: A Tampa, Fla., appeals court Wednesday denied a request from the parents of a severely brain-damaged woman for a new trial in the long-running right-to-die

case, according to the court clerk's office.

The 2nd District Court of Appeal issued the denial without a written opinion.

Attorney George Felos said once the court issues a formal decision in 15 days, Michael Schiavo may again be able to order the removal of the feeding tube that helps keep his 41-year-old wife alive.

Terri Schiavo collapsed from a chemical imbalance due to an eating disorder 14 years ago and left no written end-of-life directive.

Hospital in crisis: The Martin Luther King Jr./Drew Medical Center of Los Angeles failed an inspection by federal regulators this week, moving the beleaguered public hospital closer to losing \$200 million in federal funding.

federal funding.

Barring a last-minute change, the Los Angeles County-owned hospital just south of
Watts is tentatively slated to lose its federal
money Jan. 19, county health officials wrote
in a memo late Wednesday to the county
Board of Supervisors. Without that funding,
King/Drew could be forced to close, imperliing the largely poor black and Hispanic population it serves, officials have said.

King/Drew had pledged to make changes earlier this month after the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services faulted it for allowing county police officers to use Taser stun guns to subdue psychiatric patients

Alabama Ten Commandments case: Former Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Roy Moore acknowledges having feelings of "doubt and fear" on the night of July 31, 2001, as he sat alone in his state courthouse office awaiting delivery of a Ten Commandments monument he wanted to install in the ryfunds.

In a new book, "So Help Me God," Moore describes that night as the completion of a lifelong mission to use his position as the state's highest judge to publicly display a symbol of his religion.

It was also the beginning of a two-year fight that ended with Moore becoming the first chief justice in Alabama's history to be expelled from office after he refused a federal judge's order to remove the monument from the judicial building's rotunda.

World

Russian school attack: Only 17 of 31 attackers who seized a school in southern Russia four months ago have been identified, Deputy Prosecutor General Nikolai Shepel said Thursday.

He said that documents had been sent to Interpol to help identify two of the attackers, "presumably coming from Middle East countries," the Interfax news agency reported.

The Sept. 1-3 terrorist raid on a school in the town of Beslan ended in a hail of gunfire and explosions, killing more than 330 hostages, nearly half of them children.

Berlusconi's hair: Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi acknowledged Thursday that he



Wash, governor's race: Republican gubernatorial candidate Dino Rossi calls for a revote in the hotty contested Washington state governor's race at his campaign headquarters in Bellevue, Joining Rossi are, from left, his wife, Terry, and children Iulianna, 14; Joseph, 8; Jake, 10; and Jillian, A. Democrat Christine Gregoire was declared governor-elect Thursday — by 129 votes over Rossi — but Rossi has refused to concede. Secretary of State Sam Reed, a Republican, certified Gregoire as the winner of the closest governor's race in state history.



Berlusconi 2003



Berlusconi Dec. 28, 2004

had a hair transplant, saying his hair is "growing wonderfully" and that cosmetic surgery is a duty for those who can afford it. Italian media in August were abuzz with speculation that the image-conscious, bald-

ing leader might have had a hair transplant.
"My hair is growing wonderfully," Berlusconi said during his year-end press conference. "I am very happy to have subjected myself to such pain."

Berlusconi, 68, had cosmetic surgery around his eyes during the Christmas holidays last year. He confirmed the operation about a month later, specifying that it had only been around his eyes.

Gay marriage in Spain: Spain's Socialist government on Friday approved a bill to legalize same-sex marriages, putting this predominantly Roman Catholic country on course to become only the third country to recognize gay marriages.

The bill was approved at a Cabinet meeting and is expected to be presented to Parliament in February for debate.

"The right to marry is a right for everyone, without distinction. It cannot be understood as a privilege," Deputy Prime Minister Maria Teresa Fernandez de la Vega told a press conference after the Cabinet meet-

Under the bill, homosexuals will be allowed to adopt children and couples of the same sex will be able to inherit from one another as well as receive retirement benefits from their working spouses in the same way in which heterosexual married couples do now.

Israeli barrier: A section of Israel's West Bank separation barrier will leave 17,000 Palestinians on the Israeli side, hampering their access to the West Bank, settler and security officials said Thursday.

curity officials said Thursday.

The barrier will encompass the Etzion settlement bloc in the southern West Bank, as
originally planned — despite a Supreme
Court ruling to move the route closer to the
"Green Line" 1949 border, said Shaul Gold-

stein, the Etzion bloc council head.

A senior security official said the Defense
Ministry was in talks with the attorney general to try to reduce hardship to the Palestin-

Israel began building the obstacle to stop a wave of Palestinian suicide bombers who were infiltrating unhindered from the West Rank

Afghan prisoners: Fifteen prisoners escaped from an Afghan jail, apparently with the help of several of their guards, police said Thursday.

The group disappeared from a jail in Khost, a former stronghold of Taliban and al-Qaida militants near the Pakistani border — but all those who escaped were criminals rather than "political prisoners," said police chief Mohammed Avous

Three were quickly re-arrested, but the others were still at large Thursday.

Ukraine election: Ukraine's election commission rejected the entire appeal by Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych against results showing he lost this week's repeat running, saying he had not proved there were any mass violations, a commission member

Yanukovych now has the option of appealing to the Supreme Court. The prime minister has refused to accept

The prime minister has refused to accept results showing a solid victory for Western-leaning opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko in Sunday's vote.

Stories and photos from wire services







Rate shown is Arrizal Percentage Rate, counted as of 11/01/194 and subject to change official countries and term determined by the sourcell crost's workshoes of each applicant. Gass be a member of SCU or eighble to combine the property of the complex of the sample of the countries of the complex of the and percentage of the countries of the countries of the countries of the automatic learn payment and and selection of the automatic lean payment and the countries of the countries of the countries. All beans which quality for collisional turks of \$250 or

Bases ask GIs to drink responsibly

BY WARD SANDERSON Stars and Stripes

A soldier held the stage, Pearl Jam in his voice and big acoustic strums rippling golden from his guitar. He and his buddy then tried out "La Bamba." The baseball caps in the audi ence nodded along to the music

A guy with a bagpipe would be next

The recent iam session at the An Sibin pub in Darmstadt, Germany, isn't unique to that festive stretch of late December staggering to-ward New Year's Eve. But the swell of the crowd and its American accent implied that holiday season is indeed party seas

The military is advising troops to be safe during the holidays and to stay away from the driver's wheel, regardless of how few eggnogs they've had.

Though it's unclear yet how rowdy this year's holiday season will be, the biggest U.S. military community in Europe reports a 44 percent increase in drunken driving for the entire year compared with 2003. And the year's biggest night has yet to pop.

To stop trends like this, many bases offer programs to get troops home from the party in one niece

"Don't risk ruining your holidays, your career or even your life over a drink. It's just not worth it." Patrick T. Teel, chief of Army Substance Abuse Program Europe, said in a pre-

pared statement "Plan ahead and identify a designated driver or a means of public transportation if you plan to drink alcohol. Trying to guess 'how much' will be 'too much' is very dangerous be cause even one drink affects your judgment and your ability to make that decision. It's better not to drink alcohol at all if you're going to be driving. Be smart about alcohol and don't drink and drive.

The Army recorded 17 cases of drunken driving arrests last holiday season - Dec. 24 through Jan. 1 — compared with 37 the year prior to that. There were 23 during the 2001 holiday season and 32 at the millennium, according to the Army's Installation Management Agency-Europe

The Navy reported a total of 12 cases of drunken driving over the past three holiday seasons in Europe, but numbers for individual years weren't available. Air Force figures



Spc. Joseph Carter, left, is the designated driver for Spc. Christopher Bucknell and other members of the Darmstadt, Germany-based 578th Signal Company, on a recent night on the town.

weren't available because the service only logs them at individual bases, said Mai, Pat Ryder, a spokesman for U.S. Air Forces in Eu-

One place that's seen a big spike over the en-

tire year is the Kaiserslautern, Germany, area the biggest American military community on the continent — which has logged at least 198 cases of driving under the influence this year. That's a 44 percent increase over 2003, according to Ramstein Air Base. The culprits in the 198 cases are split almost evenly between Army and Air Force personnel

The military wants to fight this. Individual commands often promote designated-driver programs or offer taxi programs for nights out on the town

"We always have a designated driver with us, or we'll take a taxi," said Spc. Joseph Carter, who took in the Pearl Jam-ness and bagpipes at the pub session. Carter was the driver

"We have another guy, too — we just drink Coke or whatever. And definitely, if someone tries to drive home, we definitely take the

Their command also keeps a taxi fund, the troops say

"You make a phone call, and the battalion pays for you," said Spc. Christopher Bucknell. Troops have to pay it back in 24 hours.

The programs aren't unique to one place or service. In Naples, Italy, sailors can use a service called "Tipsy Taxi" sponsored by the Chief Petty Officers Association. Through Jan. 7, a "Tipsy" representative will meet a sailor at the gate to pay for a cab

In Gaeta, Italy, the Navy calls it "Drive Alive." and it runs through Jan. 3.

"It's confidential," said Lt. Cmdr. Lisa Braun, spokeswoman for Navy Region Europe. "They don't ask questions

The troops in the pub said that for them and their 578th Signal Company, such programs seem to be fighting drunken driving "I've been here two years," Carter said,

"and we've only had only incident." Ben Murray in Kaiserslautern, Germany, contributed to

E-mail Ward Sanderson at: sandersonw@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Darmstadt rabies alert

DARMSTADT, Germany -Darmstadt city officials an-nounced this week that the city and a 40-kilometer radius surrounding the city have been declared a rabies-affected district after a fox was found dead of the disease in nearby

In a news release, the 233rd Base Support Battalion on Cambrai-Fritsch Casern in Darmstadt urged pet owners to keep all dogs on a leash while outdoors and all cats indoors, unless the animal has a current rabies vaccination

Residents should be cautious around wild animals that seem tame and never touch a dead animal, the release stat-

Soldier's robbery trial

A soldier charged with robbing a Community Bank at Coleman Barracks in Mannheim, Germany, is set to appear in court to face charges on Jan. 10.

Spc. Daniel A. Sampe of the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Aviation Regiment, stationed at Coleman Barracks, has charged in connection with the theft of about \$50,000 in U.S. and European currency from the bank, Army officials said this week. He is facing charges of robbery and communicating a threat.

The robbery occurred at about 10 a.m. Sept. 29, when a masked individual wearing an Army physical training suit entered the bank, brandished what appeared to be a handgun and ordered customers and employees to the ground.

Sampe was arraigned on Dec. 17 and declined to enter a plea, according to an Army public affairs office. He waived his right to an Article 32, the military equivalent of a civilian grand jury hearing. From staff reports

BY BEN MURRAY

Stars and Stripes

LANDSTUHL, Germany — When Staff Sgt. Kevin Cooper of the 435th Air Base Wing Security Forces Squadron and his wife Jody, decided to reverse Kevin's vasectomy to have one more child, they were hoping for a girl.

The Coopers already had three boys, ages 4, 8 and 11, and hoped to round the family out with a daughter. In the fall, they got what they wanted ... and then some

"We just wanted one more," Jody said. "We prayed for a girl and got three of 'em

On Nov. 16, Jody, 28, gave birth naturally to healthy identical trip-- Aspen, Trinity and Payton at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, each weighing between 3 and 41/2 pounds. Without the use of fertility aids

and lacking any history of multiple births in their families, the chance of the couple conceiving identical triplets was extremely small, doctors told them, hovering at about 1 in 100,000.

But conceive them they did, and a specialist gave the news to the Coopers in June

"I cried and Kevin had to sit down for a few minutes," Jody said. "He said, 'I'm going to have to work five jobs .. David, 11, Broc, 8, and Heath, 4

The work of carrying three babies at once. Jody said, "wasn't that bad," though it required a three-week stay at Landstuhl, and five weeks of postnatal care for the children at the hospital.

3's company for Landstuhl family

Now in late December, with a trio of healthy babies at home for the holidays, the Cooper family is working on restructuring life around the new arrivals.

The three girls go through 25 diapers and 30 bottles in a 24-hour period, Kevin said, and the parents have run into some unique problems that come with triplets. such as: Which baby is which?

They look the same, they cry the same, they coo the same, he said, and are generally always kept together to keep them calm and comfortable.

"If we separate them, they get a little fussy," said Kevin, 31. To solve the identity problem,

the Coopers have made little girls, and have started to identify them by their tiny marks and blemishes, he said. The three Cooper boys

- have proved to be willing and reliable helpers in the care of their new sisters. Jody said. But they draw the line at some tasks.

The only thing they don't do is change diapers," she said.

The Coopers have also received generous help from their extended families and local church, they said, but no matter what level of help parents receive from friends and relatives, juggling three identinewborns minute-by-minute logistical puzzle.

Sitting in her living room this eek, a baby in each arm and one with her husband, Jody tried to get up for a second to get something from behind the couch, and ended up just kind of looking around for a moment, trying to figure out how to do it.

Kevin came over and between the two of them, they safely transferred babies back and forth until she could stand, still holding one. Outside the home, things are just as difficult, the Coopers said. They can no longer ride togeth-



Staff Sgt. Kevin Cooper of the 435th Air Base Wing Security Forces Squadron and his wife. Jody. cradle their 6-week-old identical triplets. from left, Aspen, Trinity and Payton, at the home of the recently expanded family in Landstuhl, Germany, on Tuesday.

er in one car (their minivan only seats seven), and they have to buy things such as clothes and groceries in triplicate — plus things for

Carting three babies and managing three sons in public draws a definite reaction from lots of people, who generally express a mix of pity and wonder at the thought of caring for such a large family. Jody said.

"We get that look a lot like, 'Oh, eck no,' " she said. "People's heck no, eyes get huge."

But the Coopers, who said that at one point they had decided to have only two children, said their new daughters are anything but a

burden. "We've been blessed." Jody said.

E-mail Ben Murray at: murrayb@mail.estripe ines osd mil

MILITARY UPDATE Tom Philpott

Legislative language falls short for disabled

Some reservists won't benefit from '05 National Defense Authorization Act

guage misfires, Congress can intend one thing and do another. That seems to have occurred last October with passage of the 2005 National Defense Authorization Act

The NDAA adopts a fairer formula for calculating disability retirement for activated National Guard and Reserve personnel.

However, the initiative to bene fit mobilized reservists, at least for now, is written in a way that helps far fewer members than lawmakers hoped. In fact, it leaves behind most Guard and Reserve members who have been seriously wounded in war.

National Guard and Reserve per-

sonnel injured while on active duty, and awarded disability retirement on or after Oct. 28, 2004, will have their pay calculated using a more generous formula.

The change was proposed by Defense officials after seeing a disturbing disparity in disability retirement between active-duty members and activated reservists injured in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The problem is linked to the "High-3" retirement formula that applies to any member who entered service on or after Sept. 8, 1980. Those who joined earlier, and who serve 20 years see their annuity based on a percentage of "final" basic pay. Retirees under High-3 see annuities based on a percentage of average basic pay over their highest three earning years, usually their last three years of active service

But three years' active service for a mobilized Guard and Reserve member, to calculate disability retirement, can mean going back to period of service when basic pay was set far below current pay levels. This can sharply lower the value of disability retirement compared to active-duty colleagues. Indeed, older, more experienced reservists wounded in Iraq can receive disability pay only half the size of that provided to injured active-duty peers.

With the NDAA, Congress stepped in to require that disability retirements be computed for High-3 Guard or Reserve memtheir last three years on active duty But the law wasn't written officials discovered, so it could be applied retroactively to reserve me bers injured since the war on terrorism began Sept. 11, 2001.

Knowing that was the intent, Defense lawyers and policymakers reviewed the language carefully over the last two months. They found no way to interpret it more broadly. In late December, officials issued guidance to military finance centers to apply the more favorable High-3 formula only to disability retirements on or after Oct 28 when the law was signed.

It's too early to assure disabled reservists that the new Congress will vote to move the effective date sync as written with another 2005 NDAA change this one directing that the more favorable High-3 formula be used to recalculate survivor benefit to families of reservists who died on active after September 10, 2001.

The SBP change helps only a small number of survivors. Most elect to forfeit SBP anyway to accent tax-free Dependency and Indemnity Compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs. It will make a difference to families with small children who have lost reservists on active duty on or after Nov. 24, 2003

To comment, write Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centreville, VA 20120-1111, e-mail milupdate@aol.com or visit www.militaryupdate.com

Report says letter alerted AF brass of rape allegations

Scripps Howard News Service

WASHINGTON - A "concerned citizen" alerted top Air Force officials about rape allegations at the Air Force Academy six months before an anonymous e-mail set off a media firestorm, Pentagon records show

The text of a June 28, 2002, letter, which was unsigned, is contained in a newly released report from the Department of Defense inspector general's office, which is investigating the way various Air Force officials handled the author's complaint.

The letter, addressed to Air Force Secretary James Roche, Air Force Chief of Staff John Jumper and other officials, made allegations in capital letters.

"FEMALE CADETS ARE BEING RAPED AND SEXUAL-LY HARASSED BY MALE CA-DETS AND ACADEMY OFFI-CIALS REFUSE TO PROSE-CUTE THE MALE RAPISTS," the letter said.

Among other charges: that female cadets were punished for reporting rapes, that an officer told females that being raped was their fault and that counselors seemed more concerned about the academy's reputation than helping victims. The letter alluded to various

cases that ended without prosecutions and called for an investigation to be turned over to the FBI. "Do not allow the Air Force to

conduct its own internal investigathe letter pleaded, "because if you do, you will become an accomplice to rape!

According to the DOD report, the letter was referred to the Air Force inspector general's office, at the time headed by Lt. Gen. Raymond Huot. Huot's office reportedly focused on the specific charge about the officer's alleged comments. No disciplinary action

The DOD report faulted Huot for not addressing the broader issues, which re-emerged in a December 2002 e-mail to media outlets and various officials, sparking the widely publicized investi-

"Lt. Gen. Huot did not respond to substantive allegations of misconduct and allegations that Air Force cadets and crime victims at the USAFA were being exploit-ed," the new report stated. It cited him among eight academy or Air Force officials it said shared responsibility for the scan-

Huot could not be reached for comment Tuesday, but rebutted the criticism in a detailed written response to a draft version of the

"Quite frankly, the draft report language smacks of attempts at sensationalism in reporting rather than an objective analysis and statements of fact," Huot said.

Huot said his office's "complaint analysis" was proper. Investigators found no evidence of wrongdoing by the officer accused of disparaging a rape victim. Brig. Gen. Taco Gilbert.

Crew Chief for a Day program



Staff Sgt. Gerald Gootee, right, a crew chief for the 455th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, shows Col. Derrick A. Hoxie III, from the 552nd Air Control Wing, how to confirm to the pilot that the flight controls are working properly during an A-10 preflight check at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. The demonstration was part of the squadron's Crew Chief for a Day program, which offers deployed airmen of all Air Force career fields the opportunity to see what it is like to work on fighter jets.

Soldier arrested in domestic violence

A soldier based in Kitzingen, Germany, was anniehended Tuesday after allegedly assaulting his wife with a hammer in their off-post home.

The name of the soldier is being withheld by his unit, the 12th Chemical Company.

The soldier was hospitalized at the 67th Combat Support Hospital in Würzburg, Germany, where he being treated for self-inflicted injuries, said Maj. Twila Peterson, 417th Base Support Battalion provost marshall.

He was undergoing a psychological evaluation and is expected to be transferred to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center for further evaluation, Peterson said. His wife, whose name also was withheld, sustained minor injuries and was treated and released from the 67th CSH, Peterson said.

Charges will be preferred against the soldier after his medical evaluation is complete.

DOD plans to retire aircraft carrier

WASHINGTON - The Pentagon plans to retire one of the Navy's 12 aircraft carriers and buy fewer amphibious landing ships for the Marine Corps as part of \$60 billion in proposed cuts over the next six ears, congressional and military officials told The New York Times on Wednesday

The proposed cuts would, for the first time since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, slow the growth in Pentagon spending, which has risen 41 percent in that period to about \$420 billion this year.

Under the proposal, the Navy would retire the carrier John F. Kennedy next year. In addition, develop-ment of the Army's \$120 billion Future Combat System, designed to link soldiers by computer with remotely piloted aircraft and combat vehicles, would

From staff reports

Military dominates talk in election year

BY PATRICK DICKSON AND LISA BURGESS

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON - The presidential election dominated the front pages around the world in 2004, but it was the military that drove much of the conversation surrounding the campaign.

Democratic challenger Sen. John Kerry presented himself as a viable commander in chief by focusing on his experiences in the Vietnam War.

Debate over his war record quickly became the dominant tonic in the campaign with the Swift Boat Veterans for Truth, a Texas-based Political Action Committee, flooding the airwaves with counterclaims as to Kerry's exploits.

President George Bush already had en-

dured similar criticism, coming from filmmaker Michael Moore, who questioned the president's service in the Alabama National Guard with his film "Fahrenheit 9/11."

Although at times Washington's favorite sport appeared to be forming pools on Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's resignation date. Rumsfeld remains.

He was criticized for the Abu Ghraib prison scandal, what were widely perceived as inadequacies in postwar planning and his response to a question from a soldier in Kuwait in December about why his men were scrounging to armor trucks bound for Irag. Yet Rumsfeld staved, while many other figures in the Bush Cabinet moved on after the elections.

The service chiefs were less bulletproof. Army jaws dropped last year when Rumsfeld suggested that Air Force Secretary James Roche should replace Thomas White as Army secretary, after White re-signed in May 2003.

Roche was a former Naval officer with no Army experience. But his nomination stalled in the Senate Armed Services Committee, primarily because of Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., who criticized a \$21 billion air tanker leasing arrangement Roche supported.

Roche withdrew his name from consideration on Nov. 16, and the Senate quietly confirmed defense industry executive Francis J. Harvey as the new secretary of the Army

Meanwhile, Navy Secretary Gordon England was mum on whether he intends to remain for a second Bush term.

But the war in Iraq was never far from the headlines, with death tolls in Iraq top-

ping 1,326 U.S. personnel by the end of the year, according to statistics compiled by the Pentagon. In 2004 alone, 842 servicemembers were killed, and thousands were injured, especially by improvised explosive devices and mortars

Congress and other critics grilled the Pentagon about why more armored vehicles and personal protective gear had not been sent to the region.

In Afghanistan, another 50 U.S. servicemembers died in 2004, bringing the total in that war to 151 since it began in October

And though the Bush administration last year envisioned smaller troop numbers in Iraq by this time, the number is ramping up in preparation for January elections.

The success or failure of those elections will shape much of what happens to the mil-

DOD year in review

lanuary

Jan. 8: In Iraq, a U.S. Black Hawk helicop ter crashes in Nuaymiya, near Fallujah, killing nine soldiers

Jan. 9: U.S. Defense Department gives Saddam Hussein prisoner-of-war status, a lowing the former Iraqi dictator access to Red Cross nersonnel ross personnel.

Jan. 11: Former Treasury secretary Paul O'Neill tells "60 Minutes" that the Bush administration had been planning an attack against Irag since the first days of the presi-

Jan. 20: President Bush delivers his State of the Union address defending the war in Iraq, tax cuts and highlighting the urgency to continue fighting terrorism

February

Feb. 2: The Bush administration releases its \$2.4 trillion budget proposal for fiscal 2005 that would boost military funding by 7.1 percent

Feb. 12: Two former employees of Iraq contractor Halliburton say the company "rou-tinely overcharged" the U.S. military.

Feb. 23: Army officials announce they will kill the \$38 billion Comanche helicopter program

Feb. 29: Under U.S. pressure. Haiti's pres ident, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, resigns and goes into exile. U.S. Marines begin to arriving in the country to help keep the peace.

March

March 18: NATO deploys an additional 1,000 peacekeepers to Kosovo to help the 18,000 already there, as violence threatens to break out

March 20: Dozens die in clashes between Serbs and ethnic Albanians in Kosovo

March 29: The North Atlantic Treaty Orga nization formally admits seven new coun-tries: Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Ro-mania, Slovakia, and Slovenia.

March 31: Four U.S. civilian contract worl ers are shot, mutilated, and then dragged through the streets of Fallujah, Iraq, and their remains hung from a bridge.

April

April 5: U.S. troops raid Fallujah in response to the killing and mutilation of the four

April 11: U.S. commanders order a cease-fire in Falluiah after two members of Iraqi Governing Council resign in protest of April 14: In an audiotape broadcast, a

man believed to be Osama bin Laden says his al-Qaida organization will declare a truce with nations that withdraw troops from Mus. April 19: U.S. officials say they will end the

offensive in Fallujah if insurgents agree to

April 22: Army Spc. Pat Tillman, the National Football League to fight along-side his brother in the Army Rangers, is killed in Afghanistan. The Army says Tillman was killed by the enemy in a prolonged fire

April 30: CBS's "60 Minutes II" broadcasts graphic photos, taken in late 2003, of Amerian soldiers grinning as they abuse Iraqis in the Abu Ghraib prison.

April 30: U.S. Marines transfer security of Fallujah to Iraqis led by Jasim Muham Saleh, a former general and member of Sad-



Veterans and other visitors to Washington flocked to the National World War II Memorial in the days

before its dedication on May 29. dam Hussein's Republican Guard.

May

May 4: Defense Department officials an-nounce 135,000 U.S. soldiers will remain in Iraq through 2005, even though an earlie plan said that number would be reduced to 115,000 by the end of May 2004.

May 5: Bush annears on Arab television to call abuse and deaths of Iraqi prisoners "abhorrent." Bush criticizes Defense Secre-tary Donald Rumsfeld for not informing him about the photos earlier.

May 19: In the first court-martial in the pris oner abuse scandal in Iraq, Spc. Jeremy Siveads guilty to several charges.

May 20: U.S. troops and Iraqis confiscate computers and ransack headquarters of Ahmad Chalabi, a member of the Iraqi Go eming Council who had been receiving a nly stipend from the U.S. governme

May 26: The Islamic government and udan People's Liberation Army agree to end civil war that has lasted more than 20 years and claimed about 2 million peop but fighting continues in the western Darfu en Arah milities and black Afri

May 28: Iyad Allawi, former exile and member of the Iraqi Governing Council, is chosen as Iraq's interim prime mi

May 29: The new National World War II Memorial is dedicated in Washington, with almost 10,000 veterans of that war in atten-

May 30: The Washington Post cites an

Army investigation report that says Spc. Pat

June

June 1: U.N. peacekeepers arrive in Haiti to begin taking over for the Marine-led multi-June 2: The Army announces that troops

ading for service in Iraq and Afghanista face extended tours. June 7: Pentagon officials announce plans to withdraw about 12,500 U.S. troops

from South Korea June 23: Bush administration offers fuel

oil and a "provisional security guarantee" to North Korea if it agrees to disclose details of its weapons program, allow inspections, and begin to dismantle its nuclear program. June 24: North Korea threatens to test a

June 27: Irani "Islamic Reaction" group threatens to behead Marine Cpl. Wassef Al Hassoun, an American of Lebanese de coant unloce the LLS releases all Irani nris. oners. Hassoun later turns up in his r Lebanon and is returned to U.S. custody June 29: Pentagon officials announce the call-up of 5,600 Inactive Ready Reserve sol-diers for service in Iraq and Afghanistan.

July

July 1: Saddpears in Iraq court for the first raigned on charges of crimes against humani-

July 22: The U.S. Army inspector general findings of Army Mai, Gen. Antonio Taguba, says rogue not soldiers

problems, caused prisoner abuse at Abu Gh



August Aug. 5: Shiite cleric Mugtada al-Sadr or-

ders an uprising against coalition troops. Vio-lence flares in Najaf and Baghdad; hundreds of Iragis are killed Aug. 16: Bush announces that the Penta gon will withdraw 60,000 to 70,000 troops

from Europe and Asia over the next 10 Aug. 26: Al-Sadr agrees to deal brokered by Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani to end the

ege of Najaf and Kufa

September

Sent 7: The American death toll in Iraq

Sept. 29: Judges in Yemen sentence Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri and Jamal al-Badawi to death for plotting the 2000 attack on the American destroyer USS Cole.

October

Oct. 1-3: In a battle that later will be held up as a model for the fight for Fallujah, more than 5.000 U.S. soldiers, assisted by newly trained Iraqi troops, take over Sama

spite allegations of fraud by some of the 17 other candidates on the ballot, Hamid Karzai

Oct. 24: Fifty new graduates of a coali-tion-sponsored Iraqi Army training course are executed en masse by insurgents loyal to Ahu Musah al-Zamawi

Oct. 25: The New York Times reports that about 380 tons of explosives disappeared from Iraq's al-Qaqaa military installation sometime after the U.S.-led war began in

November

Nov. 8: U.S. forces initiate an all-out as sault on Falluiah, which had been under the control of insurgents since May

Nov. 16: Ruch nominates his national co. curity adviser, Condoleezza Rice, as secre-tary of state. Rice's deputy, Stephen Hadley, is named to succeed Rice. Nov. 30: The New York Times reports

that International Committee of the Red Cross found military personal used tech-niques on prisoners held at the Guantanamo prison in Cuba "tantamount to torture

Nov. 30: Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge announces his resignation.

December

Dec. 8: A soldier in Kuwait asks Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld why his unit's Humvees and other transport trucks aren't equipped with protective armor, prompting question from Congress and the media about why, after two years of war, only 75 percent of all transport vehicles in the Middle East theater are armored.

Dec. 21: Twenty-two people, including 14 U.S. troops, are killed and 69 personnel wounded in an attack on a dining facility at a U.S. base in Mosul.

Dec. 21: Cpl. Hassoun begins his Article 32 pretrial investigation at Camp Lejeune, N.C. Hassoun is charged with desertion after he disanneared from his unit in Iron and later claimed to be kidnapped.

Dec. 27: Pacific Command dispatches ships, aircraft and 3,700 troops to aid in disaster relief efforts for victims of the earth-quake and tsunami catastrophe in the Indian Ocean.

Compiled by Lisa Burgess, Stars and Stripes

Sources: www.infoplease.com; Stars and Stripes news stories.

Army Spc. Lynndie England, of the 372nd Military Police Company, became the face of the Abu Ghraib prisoner abuse scandal in Iraq

25 insurgents killed in assault on U.S. post

BY SLOBODAN LEKIC The Associated Press

BAGHDAD - Insurgents tried to ram a truck with half a ton of explosives into a U.S. military post in the northern city of Mosul on Thursday, then ambushed reinforcements in a huge gunbattle in which 25 rebels and one American soldier were killed. Warplanes fired missiles and strafed gunmen during the fight.

The assault on the outpost, which U.S. soldiers finally renulsed anneared to be better co. ordinated than past attacks, with guerrillas apparently pulling out their strongest assaults in an effort to derail Jan. 30 elections U.S. military spokesman Lt. Col. Paul Hastings said.

"The terrorists are growing more desperate in their attempts to derail the elections, and they're trying to put it all on the line and give it all they can," Hastings

Mosul, Iraq's third-largest city, has become a hotbed of insurgent activity in the past several months. A suicide bomber infiltrated a U.S. base near the city last week, detonating his explo-sives in a dining tent and killing 22 people, including 18 Ameri-. The radical Ansar al-Sunnah Army claimed responsibility for the attack.

Wednesday's clashes began



An Iraqi boy looks out Thursday from the rubble of the building destroyed the day before in Mosul. U.S. troops and warplanes killed at least 25 insurgents as they attacked an American outpost in northern Iraq with a car bomb and explosives. One American soldier died in the ambush.

when a truck approached the base and American troops opened fire. The truck, laden with 1,000 pounds of explosives, blew

up just outside, Hastings said. Reinforcements came under fire by guerrillas using automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenades and moving in squads of between 10 and 12. A heavily armored Stryker vehicle that had left the outpost moments before seven roadside bombs that had been laid out for its return, Hastings said. The bombs were detonated safely.

The Americans then called in strikes by F-18 and F-16 fighter iets, which launched three Mayerick missiles and conducted several strafing runs against the insurgents. The result was 25 insurgents and one American soldier killed. Twenty Americans were wounded, but 17 returned to duty within hours.

Insurgents have shown an increasing sophistication in their attacks. In Baghdad on Wednesday, guerrillas used an anonymous tip to lure Iraqi police and national guards to a house in a staunchly Baathist neighborhood. They then set off a massive explosion in the house, killing 22 civilians and seven officers.

The latest clash in Mosul came as U.S. troops launched a new offensive in an area south of the capital dubbed the "triangle of death." in an apparent effort to secure the region ahead of the crucial parliamentary election on Jan 30

Brig. Gen. Jeffery Hammond, assistant commander of the 1st Cavalry Division that controls Baghdad, said Wednesday that U.S. troops were focusing on areas around Mahmoudiya, town about 25 miles south of the

Army tries to repair marriages

BY KIMBERLY HEFLING The Associated Press

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - When Sgt. Jose Bermudez returned from Iraq early this year, he came home to a new baby and a troubled marriage.

"We were on the brink of di-vorce," Mandy Bermudez ac-knowledged as the couple ate lunch recently with their three children, all under age 3.

The Bermudezes were among 300 couples with the Fort Campbell-based 101st Airborne Division who have attended "marriage enrichment" seminars put on by the Army in hopes of saving war-ravaged relationships.

With studies showing divorce rates as high as about 20 percent over two years among couples where one spouse has been sent off to war, the Army is spending \$2 million on a variety of marriage programs, including vouchers for romantic getaways to places like the Opryland Hotel in Nashville, Tenn.

"I've been in the Army 20 years, and I've never seen the Army pay for programs like this," said Lt. Col. Chester Egert, chaplain for the 101st

One program being implemented Armywide teaches couples forgiveness and the skills to communicate. It includes a 40-hour course with lessons on the dan-

Marriages hurt in times of war spending \$2 million on a variety of marriage programs.

With studies showing divorce rates as high as 21 percent among countes where one shouse has been sent off to war, the Army is

Marital status of the military, 2002



* Includes annulled, widowed and unkn

Sources: Military Family Resource Cente gers of alcohol and tobacco and how to recognize post-traumatic stress. Soldiers who complete it are rewarded with promotion points and a weekend retreat

with their spouse. "If you learn those skills, you ake an impact on the number of divorces, and the number we think, of reports of physical vi-olence," said Col. Glen Bloom-strom, director of ministry initia-tives for the Chief of Chaplains.

To make the program more desirable, commanders are encour-aged to give their soldiers time off to attend. Baby-sitting is often

"What we're trying to do is change the culture, that it's OK to work on your marriage and take some time, and invest in your lifelong relationship — especially now when we're asking so much of your military spouses," Bloomstrom said.

Percentage of married active duty by service branch



Jose Bermudez said it seems as if everyone he knows at Fort Campbell is either getting a divorce or contemplating one Many couples want to get things decided because the division has been alerted it could return to

Iraq as early as mid-2005 At Fort Campbell and elsewhere, many couples got married right before one spouse left for Irag. Others, like the Bermudezes, have been married longer but still have spent little time togeth-

Mandy Bermudez said part of the problem with their marriage was that he had trouble adjusting to the routine she had established for herself while he was in Iraq.

She said the two joined a church, and "it turned our mar-riage around." He and his wife decided to stay together.

"It's worth it to try and work it out." Jose Bermudez said.

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Wednesday, at least 1,325 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,041 died as a result of hostile action. the Defense Department said. The figures include three mili-

tary civilians. The AP count is one lower than the Defense Department's tally; it's not unusual for the figures to differ slightly from day to day.

The British military has reported 76 deaths; Italy, 19; Po-land, 16; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary and Latvia one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when Pres ident Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,187 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 932 deaths resulting from

hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by

the military: ■ A servicemember died Tuesday in a nonhostile inci-dent in Iraq's Anbar province.

The latest identifications reported by the Defense Depart-

■ Navy Seaman Pablito Pena Briones Jr., 22, Anaheim, Calif.; died Tuesday of a non-hostile gunshot wound in Fallujah, Iraq; assigned to 1st Marine Division Detachment, Naval Medical Center San Diego.

■ Army Spc. Jose A. Riv-era-Serrano, 26, Mayaquez, Puerto Rico; killed Monday by an explosive in Baghdad, Iraq; as-signed to the 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, Fort Hood,

■ Marine Staff Sgt. Jason A. Lehto, 31, Mount Clemens, Mich.: died Tuesday in a non-hostile incident in Iraq's Anbar prov-ince; assigned to Marine Forces Reserves Marine Wing Support Group 47, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, Mount Clemens, Mich.

Militants warn voters

BAGHDAD - Three Iraqi militant groups issued a joint statement Thursday warning Iraqis not to take part in the upcoming elections and condemning democ racy as "un-Islamic. The statement, posted on the

Web site of the Ansar al-Sunnah Army, told Iraqis not to be part of "the farce of democracy and elec-

The statement, signed by Ansar

al-Sunnah Army, the Islamic Army in Iraq and the Mujahedeen Army, said that democracy could lead to passing un-Islamic laws, such as permitting homosexual marriage, if the majority agrees to it. On Wednesday, the Ansar

al-Sunnah Army issued a statement warning that it will target all those who take part in the elec-tions. The group described polling stations as "centers of atheism."

From The Associated Press





THANKS



www.FirstCommand.com

National Guard: Jacks of all trades in Iraq

Many Guard soldiers' tasks are far cry from their civilian jobs

BY JOSEPH GIORDONO Stars and Stripes

TAJI, Iraq — Spc. Gary Trabuscio lies prone on the M88 recov-

ery vehicle, tinkering with the engine of the monstrous tracked machine.

In the National Guard, the

24-year-old is a vehicle mechanic assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry. At home in Staten Island, Trabuscio is a cop with the New York Police Department's school safety division.
What do those jobs have in com-

mon?
"Nothing at all," he says with a

Back home, Spc. Paul Dwyer, a 25-year-old from Lynbrook, N.Y., scans documents into computers for a law firm. In Iraq, he's also a mechanic with the 1st of the 69th. "That's why I joined the Guard.

to learn how to work on all kinds of vehicles," Dwyer says.

As the third wave of U.S. troops arrives in Iraq, their numbers include more National Guard and Reserve units than ever. And for the citizen-soldiers, their civilian jobs may have something, or nothing, to do with their military specialty.

Consider, for example, these soldiers and their tasks: Spc. Joshua Sütre, 22, Crowley, La, mortar platoon; student Sgt. Shel. La, general's staff; occupational health tester. Staff Sgt. Robert Burns, 36, New Iberia, La, infamtry; sheriff deptty. Pfc. Ronald Boudreaux, 20, Gramercy, La, artillery; construction.

National Guard units have always been activated for a variety of tasks. Since 1969, for example, the 1st of the 69th from New York City has been called up for a postal strike, a state prison guard strike, in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, and now

for service in Iraq.
The 256th Brigade Combat
Team, a National Guard unit
from Louisiana, was activated
during the last war with Iraq but
did not deploy. This time, they
were activated, sent to Fort Hood,
Texas, and the National Training
Center in California, and now operate in an area north and west of
Baghdad, falling under command
of the 1st Cavalry Division.

National Guard units currently make up nearly 40 percent of the 150,000 U.S. troops in and around Iraq, officials say. An additional 8,000 are in Afghanistan, according to the head of the National Guard Bureau.

There have been 100,000 Guard soldiers activated in the United States or overseas at any given time since the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks, officials said. On Wednesday, the Pentagon said the total number of Army National Guard and Army Reserve on active duty is 159,972.

Sgt. Javish Rosa, 25, New York City, infantry; previous active-duty Army. Cpl. Lou Olander,



PHOTOS BY JOSEPH GIORDONO/Stars and Stripes

Above: Spc. Paul Dower, right, and Spc. Cary Trabuscio, from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalon, 60sh Infantary, work on an M88 recovery vehicle dubbed "The Deacon" in Taji, Iraq. Neither Dower or Trabuscio are mechanics in the civilian word, but both have that military specialty in the National Guard. Right: 5gt. Doseph Shanks, 25, of Baker, La, is a Humeve gunner wit

the 2nd Battalion, 156th Infantry Regiment, a National Guard unit. Back home, he works for the Georgia Pacific paper company.

21, New York, N.Y., medic; residential building doorman. Staff Sgt. Feliberto Rivery, 47, Bronx, N.Y., infantry; school maintenance worker. Sgt. Wayne Rabinowitz, 57, New York, N.Y., unit clerk; full-time National Guard.

Back home on Long Island, Lt. Col. Geoff Slack runs a third-generation tree-trimming business, as he calls it. More technically, he jokes, he can be called an arbosiot

In Iraq, he commands the 1st of the 69th, and goes into the field on the 69th, and goes into the field so often that he has two personal security teams which work on shifts. Slack has quickly gained a reputation among his soldiers as a driven man who expects a lot from his men, but who gives the same in return. Some who haven't known him for long thought he was a cop or firefighter in his civillan life.

One of the great things about the Guard, Slack says, is how long many of the soldiers in the unit have known one another. He's known some of his soldiers and their families for nearly two decades. But that closeness can have a downside.

The Fighting 69th, a nickname the battalion earned in the Civil War, has suffered three deaths since arriving in Iraq. Another six soldiers have been wounded so badly they will not return to service.

service.
"It hits you hard. Very hard,"
Slack says. "When we get back to
New York, I need to be able to
look those families in the eye and

tell them their loss meant some-

Sg. Donald Pinkston, 34 Greenwood, Miss., infantry, State Department Diplomatic Security Service. Sgt. Luis Villegas, 23, New York, N.Y., infantry, college, steed dent. Capt. Martin Ortz, 45, Los Angeles, Calif., medic; pediatrician. Spc. Jason Garcia, 24, New York, N.Y., legal clerk/public of Jairs; hip-hop music industry, Sgt. Brad Domingue, a

26-year-old from Carencro, La, serves as a medic with the 2nd Battalion, 156th Infantry Regiment. For the past six years, he has worked as an emergency medical technician on an ambulance crew.

technician on an ambulance crew. His military job dovetalis perfectly with his civilian occupation, sometimes in surprising ways. A few weeks back, during a raid on a compound near Baghdad, Domingue was working with troops keeping security around the target

une target. Impost tried to overcome language barriers and allow some local traffic to pass through the area, Domingue's medical training came into play. He checked the medication and heart-monitor readout of one man in the car, determining that he had a serious medical condition and was on the way to the hospilal. The car was allowed through; the soldiers.

When he gets back home from Iraq, Domingue said, he's thinking of starting his own private ambulance company with one of his former co-workers.



Spc. Durrick Jefferson, 25.
Boyce, La, woter purification; sewe carrity guard. Mastet Sg. Rudy
Brown, 56. New Orlees, logistics; state food services adviser.
Sg. Chris Blanchard, 24. Brousspard, La, supply; wireless phone
soard, La, supply; wireless phone
soales, Sg. 1st Class Mary Magee,
37, Alexandria, La, personnel services noncommissioned officer;
full-time National Guard.
Mai. Lee Wright, 41. of Crow-

Maj. Lee Wright, 41, or Crowley, La, serves as the 256th Brigade's information operations officer. As he describes it, his job is to synchronize and coordinate the messages of the psychological operations, public affairs and civil affairs teams.

affairs teams.

"It's kind of like being an orchestra conductor," he says.

In his civilian life, Wright is a
food chemist for a company that

In this civilian line, wright is a food chemist for a company that produces additive blends for sports nutrition products and other consumables. His job has come into play in Iraq in a few surprising ways.

Within the 256th's area of oper-

ations, he said, is a pharmaceutical plant the locals are trying to get working again. Back home, Wright was doing research-and-development work with the type of equipment being used at the plant in Iraq. His experience also helps in the largely agricultural area where the brigade is operating. "In our business back home, we have extensive interactions with the rice, wheat and corn industries, from the basic level through processing," Wright said. "This being a predominantly agricultural area, I've already started using those contacts to help with that."

E-mail Joseph Giordono at: giordonoi@pstripes.osd.mil

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IN THE STATES

Congress set to send tsunami aid

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — When a new Congress convenes next week, law-makers will call on the Bush administration to do all it can to help victims of the tsunamis in Asia and Africa. Questions of how much aid will be needed — and how to pay for it — will come

Lawmakers and congressional aides say the Bush administration should have enough funds available for immediate relief operations without having to request more right away.

But more money will likely be needed at some point to replenish emergency funds depleted by the disaster and to help pay for longer term relief and reconstruction.

The chairman of the House International Relations Committee, Congressman Henry Hyde, said Thursday he will introduce legislation to help victims of the tsuna-

Some lawmakers say a request could be part of a package expected early next year for \$75 billion to \$100 billion.

A senior Democrat, Patrick Leahy of Vermont, said the administration should seek new funds as part of the Iraq package instead of stripping money from existing foreign aid programs, such as those fighting childhood hunger and diseases.

Another option, Leahy said, would be using billions of unspent dollars intended for Iraq reconstruction. The administration has spent little of the 518.4 billion in reconstruction funds approved by Congress last year, citing security problems and bureaucratic delaws.

"That would be the quickest and easiest way because you wouldn't have to hurt the most devastated to help the most devastated," said Leahy, top Democrat on the Senate Appropriations foreign operations subcommittee, which oversees foreign at

which oversees foreign aid.
But Rep. Jim Kolbe, an Arizona
Republican who chairs the House
Appropriations foreign operations subcommittee, cautioned
against shifting money from Iraq
reconstruction. He said those
funds were supposed to be spent

over three years.
"It's not as though they haven't spent it because it's not needed,"

A dry run for New York's big night



Times Square Alliance President Tim Tompkins tosses confetti out his office window in Times Square in New York on Wednesday during the annual *ia* nevthiness test" of the confetti that will be used for the Times Square 2005 New Year's Eve celebration. The simulation is in preparation for the release by hand of 3,000 pounds of confetti from various buildings in Times Square at inthighte ETs on New Year's Eve.

Ark. judge: Denying gays foster rights unconstitutional

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — A state ban on placing foster children in any household with a gay member was struck down when a judge ruled that the state agency enforcing it overstepped its authority by try-

ing to regulate "public morality."
Ruling in a case brought by the Arkansas chapter
of the American Civil Liberties Union, Pulaski County Circuit Judge Timothy Fox declared the ban un-

constitutional Wednesday.

At issue was a 1999 board regulation that said gays

cannot become foster parents, and foster children cannot be placed in any home with a gay person. The ACLU had argued that the regulation violates the equal-protection rights of gays. But the judge's

ruling did not turn on that argument.
Instead, Fox noted that the Arkansas Legislature
gave the state Child Welfare Agency Review board
the power to "promote the health, safety and welfare of children," but the ban does not accomplish
that Rather, he said the regulation seeks to regulate
"public morality" — something the board was not
given the authority to do.

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Western states hit hard by storms

Seven dead after heavy rain, snow, tornado

The Associated Dece

Friday - Saturday, December 31, January 1, 2005

LOS ANGELES — A slow-rolling series of storms that battered parts of the western United States this week had more precipitation in store for California, where weather-weary residents have already endured lashing rain, heavy snowfall and a destructive tornado.

Since the wild weather began slogging ashore Monday, five deaths in California and two in Colorado have been blamed on storms. Two canoeists were missing in Arizona.

Authorities began assessing damage from mudslides and swollen creeks in northern Arizona, where a dozen Sedona-area neighborhoods were evacuated because of flooding Wednesday.

Large recreational vehicles could be seen floating down a swollen creek in Page

Authorities in Prescott were still searching

for two missing students whose canoe capsized in flooded Granite Creek. A third student had gotten out of the water to look for help.

California had been taking the brunt of the Pacific barrage, and more rain and wind were forecast for the northern California coast by Thursday night. A winter storm warning was posted around Lake Tahoe, with snow accumulations of up to 20 inches and wind gusts up to 55 mph.

Scattered showers were forecast Thursday in southern areas, where two days of downpours have brought up to 12 inches of rain.

A tornado struck the Los Angeles suburbs of Inglewood and Ladera Heights on Wednesday, snapping trees and damaging cars, but causing no injuries.

Power outages hit more than 140,000 customers across five counties and portions of several highways were closed because of flooding, mud or snow.



Residents watch flood water pass in front of their home Wednesday in Kachina Village, about six miles south of Flagstaff, Ariz.

McDonald's study

OAK BROOK, Ill. — Mc-Donald's Corp. is considering whether to require its processors to use a method for slaughtering poultry that animal rights groups say is more humane.

The fast-food giant said it is studying the possibility of "controlled atmosphere killing," in which chickens are put to sleep with an inert gas, such as nitrogen or aron.

It would replace a slaughtering process in which chickens are hung by their legs on a moving conveyor line and pulled through an electrified vat of water.

McDonald's will post the results of the study on its Web site by June 30, said Patricia Paul, senior director of corporate governance.

Malpractice bill

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — The Maryland General Assembly approved a medical malpractice overhaul package early Thursday aimed at cutting doctors' skyrocketing insurance costs, but Gov. Robert Ehrlich said he would veto it because it includes a tax on HMO premiums.

Ehrlich proposed strict restrictions on malpractice lawsuits, arguing that frivolous suits and excessive awards had driven up the cost of insurance to the point that some doctors were shutting down their practices.

But the bill developed by House and Senate negotiators also would apply a 2 percent tax on HMO premiums, adamantly opposed by Ehrlich.

From The Associated Press

FBI investigating lasers shined in cockpits

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Authorities are investigating a mysterious laser beam that was directed into the cockpit of a commercial jet traveling at more than 8,500 feet.

The beam appeared Monday when the plane was about 15 miles from Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, the FBI said.

"It was in there for several seconds like [the plane] was being tracked," FBI agent Robert Hawk said

The pilot was able to land the plane, and air traffic controllers used radar to determine the laser came from a residential area in suburban Warrensville Heights. Hawk said the laser had to

have been fairly sophisticated to track a plane traveling at that altitude. Authorities had no other leads, and are investigating whether the incident was a prank or if there was a more sinister moIn Colorado Springs, Colo., Monday night, two pilots reported green pulsating laser lights shined into their cockpits. Both the passenger plane and a cargo plane landed without problems.

Police dispatched patrol cars and a helicopter to a neighborhood to investigate but found nothing. FBI agents were continuing to conduct interviews, agency spokeswoman Monique Kelso

Federal officials have ex-

pressed concern about terrorists using laser beams, which can distract or temporarily blind a pilot. The FAA mandates that laser light shows must register their locations and the lights cannot be di-

Lasers are also often used by construction companies to line up foundations.

rected above 3,000 feet.

Interfering with a commercial flight is a felony punishable by up to five years in prison.



300 passengers trapped aboard grounded airplane for 18 hours

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — A 10-hour flight from the Netherlands stretched into 28 as passengers diverted from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport by fog sat on the ground at a central Washington airport, stuck on the plane because of custom regulations.

Food and water ran short for the approximately 300 passengers aboard Northwest Airlines Flight 33, and the toilets stopped working as the hours draged on. At least two passengers were treated for medical conditions before passengers were finally allowed to stretch their legs late in the evening.

"It's like we're hostages without being in any kind of hostage situation," passenger Misha Shmidt, a violinist with the Seattle Symphony, told The Seattle Times while on the plane Tuesday night.

The flight finally arrived at

Sea-Tac at 6:26 a.m. Wednesday, 18 hours after its scheduled 12:30 p.m. Tuesday arrival.

Heavy fog at Sea-Tae forced the crew of the D2-10-30 to circle the Seattle airport until fuel ran low and the plane had to be diverted across the Cascade Range to Grant County International Airport in Moses Lake. Since embarking on what was supposed to be a 10-hour nonstop flight from Amserdam, the plane for roughly 12 hours by the time it arrived at 2.20 p.m. Passengers had to wait until an-

other crew arrived from Northwest headquarters in Minnesota. The flight was delayed further after the plane carrying the crew suffered mechanical problems, an airline spokeswoman said.

As passengers waited, food ran out and water had to be rationed.

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Buses stopped outside Navy base in Norfolk

NORFOLK, Va. — Authorities barricaded two buses Thursday morning outside the world's largest U.S. Navy base after an unidentified caller referring to a bus warned Norfolk police, "A lot of people are going to die."

A sweep of the two buses outside Norfolk Naval Station turned up no explosives, police spokesman Chris Amos said, and the Navy labeled the threat a hoax.

From The Associated Press

Rare stranger-to-stranger organ donation

BY CHERYL WITTENAUER

ST. LOUIS — Madolena Key was scheduled to donate a kidney to her husband in 2002 when a perfectly matched organ from

a deceased donor became available.

Just like that, Key's kidney wasn't need-

ed. Until she thought about it for awhile. Key contacted Mid-America Transplant Services the following January and said she would like to donate her kidney anyvay — to someone else in need.

Her husband's ordeal with kidney disease and dialysis had taught Key that 60,000 people in the United States are waiting for a kidney transplant.

"I thought, 'Why not do that for someone else?' "said Key, 43, a bank manager.

else?" said Key, 43, a bank manager.

On Wednesday, Key and the recipient of her kidney, Tracy Griffin, 37, met for the first time at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, where doctors performed the surgeries in November 2003. Key leaped from her

chair to meet Griffin, and the women hugged and wept, exchanging greetings as they wiped away tears.

"Tve got a large family that's waiting to meet you," Key told Griffin, who has had diabetes since childhood.

Key's gift to Griffin is one of only 263 stranger-to-stranger organ donations in the United States since the first one in 1998, according to the Richmond, Va-based United Network for Organ Sharing, which oversees the U.S. organ procurement and transplantation network.



A year after Madolena Key, right, donated a kidney to Tracy Griffen, they met at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

2 killed in plant blast

MUSKOGEE, Okla. — Emergency workers found the bodies of two men on Wednesday in the wreckage created by an explosion at a scrap metal plant that was felt up to 50 miles away.

The burned bodies were found near the oil-fueled furnace used to melt aluminum at the Yaffe Iron and Metals plant, Muskogee Sheriff's Chief Deputy Darrin Smith said.

The two workers killed were Ernesto Chavez, 24, and Joaquin Prada, Yaffe company board chairman Bob Yaffe said. At the time of the explosion, Prada was operating a forklift which puts aluminum into the furnace; Chavez was behind the lift. No foul play was suspected.

Leukemia drug OK'd

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Genzyme Corp. won approval for a childhood leukemia drug under an accelerated government approval process for potentially life-saving treatments.

The drug Clolar on Wednesday won Food and Drug Administration approval to treat patients aged 1 to 21 who have exhausted other treatment options for acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

The medication is the first new leukemia treatment cleared specifically for pediatric use in more than a decade, Cambridge-based Genzyme said.

The FDA granted Clolar orphan drug status, which provides seven years of market exclusivity for treating pediatric cases of the most common form of childhood leukemia.

The drug was approved under the FDA's accelerated approval process.

Parolees' pledge

AUSTIN, Texas — More than 200 Texans on parole from drunken driving and other alcohol-related offenses have been instructed to sign pledges that they will not drive from 7 p.m. on New Year's Eve until 6 a.m. the next day.

In response to the ban, a Houston state senator said Wednesday he wants to make sure that former prisoners are treated fairly as they try to rebuild their

"Punishment is important, but rehabilitation is equally important," said Sen. John Whitmire, D-Houston, chairman of the Senate Criminal Justice Committee. "It appears that someone in TDCJ believes these folks should continue to be punished once they

are out."

Parole officers will be working statewide to randomly call and visit parolees to make sure they are home.

From The Associated Press



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IN THE WORLD

WHO: Up to 5M lacking survival basics

Death toll tops 117,000 in Asia; survivors fight disease, crocodiles

By CHRIS BRUMMITT The Associated Pres-

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia -Up to 5 million people around the tsunami-struck Indian Ocean region do not have access to the ba-sics they need to stay alive clean water, shelter, food, sanitation and health care, the U.N. World Health Organization said. saying it needed \$40 million dollars to get those supplies to vic-

The death toll from last weekend's earthquake-tsunami catastrophe rose to more than 117,000 Thursday as Indonesia uncovered more and more dead from ravaged Sumatra island, where pilots dropped food to remote villages still unreachable by rescue workers. A false alarm that new killer waves were about to hit sparked panic in India, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

The increase in the death toll came after Indonesia reported nearly 28,000 newly confirmed dead in Sumatra, which was closest to the earthquake's epicenter and was overwhelmed by the tsunami that followed. Some 60 percent of Banda Aceh, the main city in northern Sumatra, was destroyed, the U.N. children's agen-cy estimated, and 115 miles of the island's northwest coast with villages - was inundated.

Another zone where officials have hardly begun to get a sense of the human cost was India's remote Andaman and Nicobar islands, just northwest of Sumatra, where entire villages were wiped out. The region's administrator said Thursday that 10,000 people were missing.
Survivors who reached the ar-

chipelago's main city, Port Blair, said they had not eaten for two days and people had to contend with hungry crocodiles that were washed ashore. "Two or three crocodiles started coming toward us," said Sister Charity, a 32-year-old nun, decribing her rescue from a small island by the navy, "The navy officers had to

the crocodiles governments

International have so far donated some \$500 million for victims of the disaster U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said.

Indonesia, with around 80,000 dead, was the worst hit, followed by Sri Lanka with 27,200, India with more than 7,300 and Thai-land at 2,400. The total across 11 nations in southern Asia and East Africa was likely to rise, thousands still missing and fears that disease could bring a new wave of deaths.

Tens of thousands of residents fled coasts in India, Sri Lanka and Thailand after warnings that a new tsunami was about to strike after new aftershocks hit the Indian Ocean Thursday.

India issued a tsunami warning at midday, but then hours later its minister, Kapil Sibal, went on television to announce the warning was incorrect and based on information received from a U.S. research firm. Several aftershocks were re-

corded in the Indian Ocean, but experts said they were not strong enough to spark a tsunami

Meanwhile, military ships and planes rushed to get desperately needed aid to Sumatra's rayaged

Food drops began along the coast, mostly of instant noodles and medicines, with some of the areas "hard to reach because they are surrounded by cliffs," said Budi Aditutro, head of the government's relief team.

Government institutions in Aceh province, on Sumatra's northern tip, have ceased to function and basic supplies such as fuel have almost run out.

But even as hope for the missing dwindled, survivors continued to turn up.

In Sri Lanka, a lone fisherman named Sini Mohammed Sar-fudeen was rescued Wednesday by an air force helicopter crew after clinging to his wave-tossed hoat for three days



Refugees line up at a makeshift camp at St. Michael's College in the eastern coastal town of Batticaloa, Sri Lanka, on Thursday to receive food rations after their fishing village was destroyed by a tsunami.



Silvarani, a tsunami victim, cries after seeing her damaged house Thursday at a fishermen's colony at Nagappattinam, in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

Magnitude makes death toll hard to tabulate

The Associated Press

CUDDALORE. India Armies of officials are tabulating the deaths caused by the tsunami that struck a dozen countries in Asia and Africa last weekend. The grim task is often imprecise.

There is meticulous record keeping in many areas of India, but bulldozers push bodies into mass graves in other places in Asia, forcing officials to make

"You are dealing with a lot of imperfections," said Steve Hollingworth, director of India's branch of the international aid group CARE. "People are dealing with a chaotic situation."

So far, the death toll across 11 nations has exceeded 117,000.

In India, a network of bureau cratic foot soldiers - local health, police and revenue offiare recording every death in five-column registers resembling school notebooks: one column each for the victim's name, age, parents' names, address and two identification marks. A photograph is taken of

A motorist covers his nose to avoid the stench of a corpse Thursday in Banda Aceh. Aceh province, Indonesia.

lice, the National Disaster Management Center and government ministers give different death

When asked whether the government could coordinate efforts to come up with one figure, the center's director, Nimal Hetti archchi, snapped, "Sorry, don't

swamped by the vast numbers admit they have been forced to make crude estimates, such as by taking the number of bodies in one mass grave and multiplying it by the number of graves. In other cases, they estimate the population of a village, count the survivors and assume the rest

have been killed. 'At first, we counted the bod-"At first, we counted the bod-ies during the evacuation, but later, when we found there were too many others, then we be-came confused," said Irman

Rachman, a volunteer with the Indonesian Red Cross. Therefore, we only based our

estimation on the number of corpses buried in the mass graves one for about 400 corpses

On Wednesday, officials in Indonesia's Aceh province bull-dozed hundreds of bodies into

No photos were taken, and no details were recorded.

"We have to do this because of the smell and the health concern. We're facing a major health hazard if we leave them lying around," acting Aceh Gov. Azwar Abu Bakar said. "We have no refrigerators to keep these bodies."

Sri Lanka follows a similar pro Swedish child's father found

PHUKET, Thailand - A Swedish toddler was reunited with his father Wednesday, days after being found alone in the aftermath of the deadly tsunami that swept Asia.

Hannes Bergstroem was found after the waves subsided Sunday and taken to a hospital on this resort island for treatment. His photo was posted on the Internet on Monday.

The two-vear-old's uncle saw the photo and

claimed the boy Tuesday. On Wednesday, the child was reunited with his father, Marko Karkkainen, at a hospital on the southern Thai island of Phuket, where both father and son were receiving treatment. Hannes, his face scratched and pocked with mos-quito bites, looked puzzled as his father choked up

Despite the joy of seeing one another again, the lay was tinged with sadness and anxiety. Suzanne

Bergstroem, the boy's mother, is still among some 5,000 people missing in Thailand.

From The Associated Press

Powell vows to help tsunami victims in Asia

Bush pledges long-term aid

BY ANNE GEARAN The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Secretary of State Colin Powell, extending "sympathy and condolences" in a visit Thursday to the Embassy of Thailand, vowed that the Bush administration will follow through on commitments that it has made to help the victims of the Asian and African tsunamis.

"You can be sure that the president is determined to do what is necessary to deal with this challenge," he told reporters at the Thai embassy. "We're working very closely with the international community."

Powell was making a round of visits to the embassies of nations ravaged by the disaster as Rep. Henry J. Hyde, chairman of the House International Relations Committee, said that he was drafting legislation to assist victims and planned to introduce it early next year.

"The infrastructure of daily life is simply gone," said Hyde, R-Ill. A congressional delegation headed by Rep. Jim Leach, R-Iowa, a former U.S. foreign service officer, is scheduled to visit Thailand and Sri Lanka next

During his visit to the Thai embassy, Powell spoke anew of the death and destruction spawned by the Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunamis. He told reporters that in the last 24 hours, a half-dozen planes from the U.S. Agency for International Development have landed or are en route to nations affected by the tsuna-

Powell also alluded to the



In the Wilmington area of Los Angeles, Operation USA warehouse coordinator Tony Shannon on Wednesday prepares a shipment of medical supplies that will be sent to tsunami-ravaged Sri Lanka.

roughly \$35 million in emergency aid already committed as "just a beginning.

"It's going to take a lot more." he said. "This is the time to make sure that we get a good needs as-sessment." The death toll there has reached more than 117,000.

On Wednesday, Andrew Natsios, head of the development agency, told reporters: "Our efforts are focused, with the rest of the international community, on water and sanitation, because that is the greatest risk to people's

Water and sewage systems were inundated by the enormous surge of water that hit coastal areas of 11 countries on Sunday following an earthquake deep in the Indian Ocean. Debris and corpses are also a health hazard

President Bush assembled a four-nation coalition to organize humanitarian relief, and prom-ised that the United States would help bankroll long-term rebuild-

"It's just beyond our comprehension to think about how many lives have been lost." Bush said after emerging from a holiday vacation at his Texas ranch to make his first comments on the disas-

Marc Grossman, undersecre-tary of state, will lead a U.S. task force to coordinate the American response and urge other nations to assist in relief efforts. He participated in a 40-minute conference call Wednesday night with senior Japanese, Australian and Indian officials

State Department spokesman

Noel Clay said they agreed to try to avoid duplicating efforts, by each other and the United Na-

tions, to help the victims. From airlifts of rice and water purifiers to the deployment of Ma-rine humanitarian assistance teams and warships, the United marshaled resources States marsnaled resources across the globe to augment its initial \$35 million aid package and make sure the hardest hit locations got the short-term help they requested

Bush said he phoned the leaders of stricken countries to solicit specific needs and assure them the initial aid package "is only the beginning of our help." He also the foundation for a long-term international recovery plan by forming the coalition with Japan, Australia and India and inviting other nations to join

For a full list of U.S. aid agencies, visit www.stripes.com/ relief.html

Accepting donations

The following aid agencies are accept-ing contributions for assistance that they or their affiliates are providing for those affected by the earthquake and tidal waves in Asia. U.S. organizations are members of interAction, a coalition

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- American Red Cross International
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U.S. to aid Asia from Thai base

BY MIKE CORDER The Associated Press

BANGKOK, Thailand - A Thai air base that accommodated U.S. bomber planes during the Vietnam War is being used by the American military again as the hub of its tsunami relief effort in the Indian Ocean

U.S. officials said Thursday that transport planes and personnel already are flying into and out of Utapao, about 90 miles south of Bangkok. A U.S. embassy spokesman said P-3

Orion surveillance planes were already flying search and rescue missions over Thailand and the first supply planes arrived in Thailand overnight.

The Pentagon has said C-130 cargo planes would haul relief supplies to Thailand from Yokota Air Base in Japan. They will also be used to ferry supplies, people "whatever's needed" - from Utapao to affected areas, the embassy spokesman said in a telephone interview.



BENNIE J. DAVIS III/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

Staff Sgt. Gilbert Deleon, right, of the 613th Security Forces Squadron, 613th Contingency Response Group from Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, looks out over the Andersen flightline Tuesday while boarding a KC-135 headed for Utapao, Thailand, with a 52-member team in support of the relief efforts in southern Asia.

In coming days, the crews could begin making airdrops of emergency water sup-

"There's going to be planes and people zipping off all over the place," he said. Utapao is well known to pilots of the Vietnam War, when it served as a base for U.S. B52 bombers.

A military forensic team also was due to arrive to help in the huge task of identifying the dead. Some 80,000 people are feared dead and millions are homeless in nearly a dozen countries after last week-end's devastating earthquake and tsuna-

The military also dispatched ships from an aircraft battle group to help with the re-lief effort. The USS Abraham Lincoln carrier strike group, which was in Hong Kong, was diverted to the Gulf of Thai-

New Year's a time to honor victims

SINGAPORE - New Year celebrations across Southeast Asia will be turned into remembrance services for those killed or affected by the quake and tsunamis, with some

events canceled outright.

Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah
Ahmad Badawi ordered all government-level celebrations to be canceled and substituted with prayer ceremonies, urging the private sector to do likewise.

So far, organizers have scrapped New Year's Eve countdown parties and concerts typically held at landmarks such as the Petronas Twin Towers. In Hong Kong, the Tourism Commission

canceled fireworks displays scheduled for New Year's Eve. New Year's Day and Jan. 2 out of respect for the disaster victims. Singapore's main arts center said its New

Year's Eve performance would now be a remembrance service for the hundreds of thousands killed by the waves spawned by the magnitude 9.0 quake in the seabed off Sumatra's western coast. A minute's silence will be held at midnight

instead of the traditional raucous countdown in the final seconds of the year, and donations will be collected from the audience for Red Cross relief operations, the Esplanade-Theaters on the Bay said.

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Fireworks warning

PRISTINA, Serbia-Montene-ro — NATO-led peacekeepers warned Thursday against the use of any kind of fireworks during New Year's celebrations near their military bases and public areas in the province.

The caution came as year end festivities drew near and the noise of firecrackers filled the streets of

Kosovo's capital, Pristina.
"We want people to celebrate in the way that they are accus-tomed to; however, for military forces. [fireworks] can sound like gunfire," said Tech. Sgt. Dean Miller, a spokesman for the peace-

Miller said the peacekeepers have asked people who live near their camps and those celebrating in public areas not to use the fireworks "as a matter of safety concern

The NATO-led soldiers have been deployed in Kosovo since mid-1999, when an alliance air war ended.

Police hunt for suspects in Riyadh attack

BY ABDULLAH AL-SHIHRI The Associated Pres.

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia Saudi police hunted for suspects Thursday after insurgents bombed two security headquarters in Riyadh, setting off violence that left 10 attackers and one bystander dead in what apal-Qaida-linked militants against

the Saudi royal family. Saudi TV reported that police sealed off streets near the site of the explosions and sent helicopters to search for the suspects in Wednesday's apparently coordinated strikes on the kingdom's se-

curity apparatus. An Interior Ministry statement blamed a "deviant group" - the government's term for al-Qaida

Saudi security forces targeted

about 8:35 p.m. in central Riyadh near the Interior Ministry, which is in charge of Saudi security forc-

A police official said two militants detonated a car bomb by remote control in a traffic tunnel near the ministry. But Al Riyadh, state-controlled newspaper, said the attack was a suicide bombing, quoting a spokesman for the Interior Ministry. Brig.

Gen. Mansour al-Turki. Saudi TV said a bystander, a limousine driver, was killed. The ministry reported no deaths but said five security agents and a few bystanders were injured, none seriously.

A half hour after the first blast and five miles away, a second explosion went off at a center for recruiting security troops.

Police said two suicide bombers tried to storm the center but blew up their car prematurely after police fired on them. The Interior Ministry said 12 se

curity officers and an unspecified number of bystanders were slightly injured. Three attackers were killed at

the sites of the blasts, according to media reports, and the minis try said seven others were killed after a chase to the north of the capital

Al Riyadh said more than 90 people were injured in the at-

tacks, flostly security forces and bystanders. "This is a heinous and disturb-ing crime," Prince Ahmed bin Abdel Aziz, the deputy interior minister, told Saudi TV. He said the attackers were all Saudis and described them as "terrorists [who] took a great risk because they know that their end is immi-

The bombings came late in the evening, when few people would have been in the building. By attacking at night and focusing on targets associated with Saudi se-curity forces, the militants appeared to be trying to avoid criticism they do not value Arab and Muslim lives. That would mark a shift from previous attacks, which seemed designed to maximize casualties, often Arab and Muslim.

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YOUR MONEY

'Free' inspection can cost

Click and Clack

Tom and Ray Magliozz

At my last oil-and-filter change, the service department at the local Subaru dealer did the "free 25-point inspection" and came back with the following diagnosis:

- 1. Replace valve cover gkt at \$320
- 2. Rear oil seal at \$620
- 3. Frt cam seal at \$450
- 4. Lft frt axle at \$270

(I've reported the acronyms verbatim, because I'm not sure what they mean.) I've made an appointment to have these done next week, but I am wondering if this is for real. What is the probability that so many items would fail all together, near-

ly all at once? My husband thinks that at 50,000-70,000 miles, one should expect to put in a couple thousand dollars in repairs. The car is a 1998 Suba-

ru Legacy Outback wagon and has 63,000 miles on it. It was driven in flat and humid Houston for the first 30,000 miles, and in hilly, very dry Tucson, Ariz., since then. At the previous oil-change visit, I was told about a non-urgent small leak related to the "frt cam seal," but no other problems. Thanks for your analysis! - Renee

RAY: Well, that 25-point inspection wasn't so free after all, was it. Renee? That's more like "25 chances to find stuff we can fix for you!"

TOM: These are all separate jobs, Renee. There's no advantage or "discount" if you do them all at the same time. So, let's look at each one indi-

RAY: The lft frt (left front) axle is a wear item which means it's something that wears out over time. Its failure can be hastened by tearing one of the CV boots, which can be a result of age, kicked-up road debris or driving over a petrified Barry Goldwater lawn sign.

TOM: But if the axle is already failing, there's no rush. You'll hear a clacking noise during acceleration on turns as it gets worse. When that starts to drive you nuts, you can replace it then

RAY: The frt (front) cam seals (there are two of them on this car) leak a lot on Subarus. We replace them all the time. So, it makes sense to me that one or both would leak at 60,000 miles, and you might as well replace both of them.

TOM: But while they're doing that, they should absolutely replace the timing belt and the water pump, too. Both of those will need to be done soon, nd the timing belt has to come off anyway to replace the front cam seals. It'll cost you a little more than \$450 to have all that done (maybe \$650), but you'll save a lot on labor by doing them all at once. RAY: Up top, there are actually two valve cover

gkts (gaskets) on this engine We've had very good luck just tightening the valve cover bolts - that often stops the leak. So

they should certainly try that before they replace the gaskets for \$320 TOM: And in terms of the rear oil seal, in all my

years of working on Subarus, I have never replaced a rear oil seal. My guess is that oil is leaking somewhere else (like the front cam seal) and blowing to the back of the engine, where your mechanic is mistaking it for a rear-seal leak. So I'd leave that one alone for now, pending further evidence.

RAY: What you can do is, after the valve covers are tightened and the front cam seals are replaced, you can have your engine steam-cleaned. Then have someone look at it again in three months. On a clean engine, any additional oil leaks will be much easier to spot and locate.

TOM: So how's that, Renee? Figure \$650 for the cam seal, timing belt and water pump, and another \$50 to steam clean the engine. We just saved you almost a thousand bucks!

RAY: Send us half, and we'll call it even, kid

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk s of cars.com on the World Wide Web. Distributed by King Features Syndicate Inc.



Michele Harrington, 53, rides on her 1996 Springer Softail Harley-Davidson, "[Wie women have broken the glass ceiling a tad and we're able to afford these things," said Jamie Rosenkrans, owner of Jim's Harley-Davidson in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Female hog riders: Firms' fast friends

By KRIS HUNDLEY St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times

Move over, Hell's Angels. A growing number of career women with discretionary income and no use for stereotypes are buying motorcycles and hitting the road

Nationwide, women accounted for nearly 10 percent of all motorcycle owners last year, up from 8.2 percent five years earlier, according to the Motorcycle Industry

While scooters are the most pop ular category, with nearly 25 percent owned by women, heavyweight bikes also are attracting more female riders. Last year, Har-ley-Davidson said it sold 23,000 bikes - or about 10 percent of its inventory - to women, up from 600 bikes, or an estimated 2 percent of the total, in 1985.

The latest generation of motorcycle fanatics are quick to point out how they differ from the caricature of a biker babe.

the back of motorcycles and they've gotten tired of it, because you can't see anything or do anything back there," said Jamie Rosenkrans, owner of Jim's Harlev-Davidson in St. Petersburg. Fla. "Plus, we women have broken the glass ceiling a tad and we're able to afford these things.

Prices for Harleys range from about \$9,500 for Sportsters to \$20,000 and up for more powerful Softails and V-Rods Extra chrome, accessories and apparel can put thousands of extra dollars

Rosenkrans said she used to be able to count fellow female riders on one hand. Now she knows women doctors, lawyers and judges who have become converts.

Although they continue to get some second looks, seeing women enjoy their motorcycles is becoming more common, both for the riders and the bystanders.

+25.95 +12.45 +21.57 +8.67 +9.13 +15.10 7,245.81 1,428.01 2 177 19 NYSE Composite Amex Index Nasdag Compos 7,242.24 1,426.7 +12.45 +21.57 +8.67 -3.57 +.35 -.19 -.05 +.52 -1.23 +.58 -.05 +.02 -.01 -.01 +.08 1,214.17 1,060.72 S&P 500 662.45 548.29 S&P MidCap 654.60 515.90 Russell 2000 11,981.40 10,268.52 DJ Wilshire 5000 +9.13 +15.10 +17.32 +17.32 +10.95 +10.95 11.981.9 NASDAQ AMEX MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE) MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE) MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)

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Wednesday's Market Summary

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EXCHANGE RATES

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South Korean won (Dec. 30)1,018.00	П
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Singapore (Dollar)1.6414 South Korea (Won)1,041.10	ı
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ing facility. Commercial rates are inter-	П
bank rates provided for reference when	П
buying currency. All figures are foreign	ı
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british pound, which is represented in	ı
dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is	ı
dollars-to-euro.)	ı

PRECIOUS METALS

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	-
Discount rate	7
Federal funds market rate	- 7
3-month bill	_2
30-year bond	_4

ents and Sensibility Money tip of the day

Starting small business

Knight Ridder/Tribune

Itching to test your skills at the head of your own small business? If so, you might want to consult one of the many books offering small-business insights and advice

Bookstores and libraries contains shelves filled with books on the subject, from running a bed and breakfast to more-generalized information about small-business practices.

If you're curious about what it takes to start a small business and the legalities involved, here are a few books that might be able to help:

- "Small Business Solutions Robert D. Hisrich. McGraw-Hill, 2004 (\$14.95) lays out 13 problems a small business faces and how to address them
- "The McGraw-Hill Guide to Starting Your Own Busi-

ness" by Stephen C. Harper, McGraw-Hill, 2003 (\$14.95) — designed for first-time entrepreneurs creating a small business, with insights on pricing, product strategies and legal considerations.

- "The Legal Guide for Starting and Running a Small Business, 7th edition" by Fred S. Ste-ingold, Nolo Press, 2003 (\$34,99) comprehensive information devoted to small-business legal aspects, including tax rules, insurance, contracts and more.
- "The Everything Start Your Own Business" by Rick Mintzer, Adams Media Corp., 2002 (\$14.95) — contains information on developing a business plan, finances and administration
- "Start Your Own Business. 2nd edition" by Rieva Lesonsky, Entrepreneur Press, 2001 (\$24.95) — covers a wide range of topics, from identifying customers to choosing the right name.

		Updated sports listi	AFR ngs are available on the first	TS Televisio Scoreboard page in the spi	orts section or AFN's Web si	te at http://myafn.dodmedia.	osd.mil/	
	diam mineral			FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3	,			dem materia
	(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-EIMOPE)	(AFN-KOREA)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFIL-PAGIFIC)
9:00 9:30	Barbie of Swan Lake An evil wizard casts a spell on a girl.	Movie "Full Circle" (1996) Teri Polo. Corbin Bernsen, A suc-	Dr. Phil	Jeopardy! Headline News	Nightline Headline News	College Basketball Gonzaga at Missouri. (Taped)	30-Minute Meals Easy Entertaining-Chiarello	Jeopardy! Headline News
10:00	Animated.	cessful young woman struggles to trust and love again.	(9:46) Oprah Winfrey	ESPNews	Hardball With Chris Matthews	(Decorating Cents	ESPNews
10:30	The Brady Bunch		(:35) Guiding Light	Headline News			The Look for Less	Pacific Report
11:00	The Brady Bunch	(10:48) Movie () "Out of Sight"		Arrested Development	The O'Reilly Factor	SportsCenter	E! News Live	Arrested Development
11:30 12:00	The Brady Bunch The Brady Bunch	(1998) George Clooney. A U.S. marshal falls for an escaped	(:17) General Hospital Headline News	Arrested Development Arrested Development	Primetime Thursday	Inside the NFL	The King of Queens That '70s Show	Arrested Development Arrested Development
12:30	The Brady Bunch	con she must capture.	Judge Judy	Arrested Development	Printetime riturousy	inside the NFL	Girlfriends	Arrested Development
13:00	The Brady Bunch	Movie ();* "Fried Green Toma-	Today	Arrested Development	Fox and Friends	College Football Pacific Life	Charmed On old crone magi-	Arrested Development
13:30	Movie (* "Home Alone 2: Lost in New York" (1992) Macaulay	toes" (1991, Comedy-Drama) Kathy Bates, Jessica Tandy.		Arrested Development		Holiday Bowl California vs. Texas Tech. From San Diego.	cally steals the sisters' senses.	Arrested Development
14:00	Culkin, Joe Pesci.	Mary Stuart Masterson.		Pacific Report The Tonight Show	Fox and Friends		Ally McBeal "The Obstacle Course"	Pacific Report The Tonight Show
14:30	Funniest Home Videos	(:08) Movie (* "10 Things I	Teacher's Pet (EI)	The folight Show	American Morning		Any Day Now "Let the Games	The folight show
15:30	Full House "Sisters in Crime"	Hate About You" (1999, Com-	What's New Scooby-Doo?	Late Show			Begin*	Late Show
16:00	Pokémon Yu-Gi-Oh!	edy) Heath Ledger, Julia Stiles, Joseph Gordon-Levitt.	Ozzy & Drix The Brothers Garcia	A	CNN Live Today	Real Sports	ER 'Foreign Affairs'	Access Hollywood
16:30 17:00	Aaahh! Real Monsters	Mike Myers Revealed Film	Jeopardy!	Access Hollywood Headline News		College Gameday	Law & Order "Juvenile"	Headline News
17:30	Rocket Power	star Mike Myers.	Headline News	The Late Late Show	i	conege dumeday	Law & Grace Gordino	The Late Late Show
18:00	SpongeBob SquarePants	Hollywood Backstories	ESPNews		FOX News	College Football Gaylord Ho-	The Simpsons 'Bart of War'	
18:30	Rugrats All Grown Un	Entertainment Tonight Movie IX "Meet the Parents"	AFN Evening News	Dennis Miller		tels Music City Bowl Alabama vs. Minnesota. From Nashville,	Everybody Loves Raymond	Dennis Miller
19:00 19:30	All Grown Up Dave the Barbarian	(2000) Robert De Niro. A man	Arrested Development Arrested Development	Entertainment Studios.com	Primetime Thursday	Tenn. (Live)	Charmed "A Wrong Day's Jour- ney into Right"	Entertainment Studios.com
20:00	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	spends a disastrous weekend with his lover's family	Arrested Development	College Football Vitalis Sun	FOX News		Boston Public "Chapter Forty-	College Football Vitalis Sun
20:30	Drake & Josh "The Bet"		Arrested Development	Bowl Arizona State vs. Pur- due, From El Paso, Texas.			One"	Bowl Arizona State vs. Pur- due, From El Paso, Texas.
21:00	That's So Raven	Movie ()* "The Truman Show" (1998) Jim Carrey. A man	Arrested Development	(Live)	Studio B With Shepard Smith	0.0	Blue Planet: Seas of Life 'Coral Seas'	(Live)
21:30 22:00	Sabrina, the Teenage Witch Switched! "Will and Matt"	learns that his world is one	Arrested Development Headline News			College Football Autozone Liberty Bowl Boise State vs.	Friends "The One in Vegas"	
22:30	Radio Free Roscoe	continuous TV program.	The Tonight Show		Your World With Neil Cavuto	Louisville. From Memphis, Tenn.	Seinfeld "The Trip"	
23:00	The Cosby Show "The Birth"	Movie (* "Dude, Where's My	· ·		Lester Holt Live	(Live)	The Daily Show	1
23:30	Home Improvement	Car?" (2000, Comedy)	Late Show				Blind Date	
00:00	Aaahh! Real Monsters	"Dude, Where's My Car?"	(11:30) Late Show	SATURDAY, JANUARY 1 All Grown Up	L 2005 Headline News	College Football: Liberty Bowl	Late Night	All Grown Up
00:00	Rocket Power	(:38) Movie (1" "Donnie Bras-	Access Hollywood	Powerpuff Girls!	NBC Nightly News	Boise St. vs. L'ville	Late High	Dave the Barbarian
1:00	SpongeBob SquarePants	co" (1997, Drama) Al Pacino, Johnny Dego, A mob lackey un-	4 Qtrs	NFL Live	ABC World News Tonight	SportsCenter	Charmed "A Wrong Day's Jour-	NFL Live
1:30	Rugrats "Graham Canyon"	knowingly takes an FBI agent		NFL Matchup	CBS Evening News	College Football Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl Florida vs. Mia-	ney into Right"	NFL Matchup
2:00	All Grown Up Dave the Barbarian	under his wing.	NBA Basketball Philadelphia 76ers at Derwer Numets From	Auto Racing FIA World Rally Championship Rally of Ar-	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	mi. From Atlanta. (Live)	Boston Public "Chapter Forty- One"	Auto Racing FIA World Rally Championship Bally of Ar-
3:00	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	Movie (); "Meet the Parents" (2000) Robert De Niro. A man	76ers at Denver Nuggets. From the Pepsi Center in Denver. (Live)	gentina. From Argentina. (Taped)	Hannity & Colmes		Blue Planet: Seas of Life	Championship Rally of Ar- gentina. From Argentina. (Taped)
3:30	Drake & Josh "The Bet"	(2000) Robert De Niro. A man spends a disastrous weekend	(LIVe)	ESPNews	1		"Coral Seas"	ESPNews
4:00	That's So Raven	with his lover's family.	ESPNews	WWE Raw	Headline News		Friends "The One in Vegas" Seinfeld "The Trip"	WWE Raw
4:30 5:00	Sabrina, the Teenage Witch Sesame Street (EI)	Movie II* "The Truman Show"	ESPNews Headline News	Headline News	Nightly Business Report Lou Dobbs Tonight	Sports Center	Breathingspace Yoga	Headline News
5:30		(1998) Jim Carrey, A man	ESPNews	Navy/Marine Corps News	1		Caribbean Workout	Navy/Marine Corps News
6:00	Barney & Friends (EI)	learns that his world is one continuous TV program.	Headline News	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	Anderson Cooper 360	College Gameday	Body Shaping	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius
6:30	Blue's Clues "Math!" Planet's Funniest Animals	Movie IX "Tombstone" (1993.	Headline News	Drake & Josh "The Bet" The Mummy	Anderson Cooper 360 "Year in Review Special" 2004.	NFL Total Access	Every Woman Beautiful Homes-Estates	Drake & Josh "The Bet" That's So Raven
7:00 7:30	Amazing Animal Videos	Western) Kurt Russell, Val	Clifford's Puppy Days (EI)	Operation Junkyard (EI)	TIME Person of the Year	INFL TOTAL ACCESS	Curb Appeal	Switched! "Will and Matt"
8:00	Lilo & Stitch "Yaarp"	Kilmer, Michael Biehn. Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday battle	All Grown Up	Radio Free Roscoe	BET Nightly News	SportsCenter	Landscapers' Challenge	Radio Free Roscoe
8:30	Teamo Supremo Static Shock	the Clanton gang.	Dave the Barbarian	American Adventurer	Tavis Smiley	NBA Baskethall Philadelphia	Weekend Warriors Clean House	American Adventurer
9:00	Static Shock Kim Possible "Mother's Day"	(:21) Movie ()* "The Hunt for	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius Drake & Josh "The Bet"	Access Hollywood	Headline News Air Force TV News		Clean House	Access Hollywood
10:00	Teen Titans "Fear Itself"	Red October" (1990) Sean	That's So Raven	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	76ers at Denver Nuggets. From the Pepsi Center in Derver. (Taned)	BBQ With Bobby Flay	Headline News
10:30	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turt.	Connery, Alec Baldwin, A Sovi- et nuclear submarine heads to-	Switched! "Will and Matt"	ESPNews	l	(lapeu)	\$40-a-Day	ESPNews
11:00	Dragonball GT	ward the coast of Maine.	Focus on the Force American Adventurer	George Lopez Half & Half	The O'Reilly Factor	Canada Candas	Fashion Police	According to Jim Half & Half
11:30 12:00	Justice League Teen Kids News (EI)	(11:51) Movie (I* "Out of	American Adventurer Access Hollywood	Half & Half CSI: Miami "Wannahe"	Dateline NBC	SportsCenter	It's Good to Be 101 Most Unforgettable SNL	Half & Half CSI: Miami "Wannahe"
12:30	Tutenstein (EI)	(11:51) Movie ()* "Out of Africa" (1985, Drama) Meryl		OOI. MILLION THE HILLOC		College Gameday	Moments	
13:00	Endurance "The Finale" (EI)	Streep, Robert Redford, Klaus Maria Brandauer, Based on	WWE Raw	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Sick"	1		Intimate Portrait "Cokie Boherts"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Sick"
13:30	Scout's Safari "Potions" (EI) Skunked TV Zoo visitors pose	Isak Dinesen's account of her plantation life			Faranani Watah	College Football Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl Florida vs. Mia-		
14:00 14:30	for a caricature.	ранажи не.	According to Jim Half & Half	Headline News Saturday Night Live	Economy Watch	mi. From Atlanta.	Antiques Roadshow "Sacra- mento, California" (Part 2 of 2)	Headline News Saturday Night Live
15:00	Most Extreme Documenting	(:06) Movie (); "Fearless"	CSI: Miami "Wannabe"		CNN Saturday Morning		Star Trek: Voyager "Initiations"	1
15:30	wildlife that gathers in swarms.	(1993, Drama) Jeff Bridges. A plane crash survivor is drawn to				College Gameday		
16:00	Hercules: The Legendary Journeys "Outcast"	a grieving woman.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Sick"	Kickin' It Latest in music and trends	Bulls and Bears Cavuto on Business		Ripley's Believe It or Not	Kickin' It Latest in music and trends
16:30	Aaahh! Real Monsters	Movie IX "While You Were	The 116th Annual Tourna-	The Entertainers	Forbes	College Football Outback	Fear Factor	The Entertainers
17:30	Rocket Power	Sleeping" (1995, Comedy) Sandra Bullock, Bill Pullman.	ment of Roses Parade (Live)		America's Black Forum	Bowl Georgia vs. Wisconsin. From Tampa Ela (Live)		
18:00	The Fairly OddParents	Sandra Bullock, Bill Pullman, Peter Gallagher.		ESPNews	CNN Live Saturday	rium iampa, Fia. (Live)	What Not to Wear "Ken" A new husband and father.	ESPNews
18:30	Rugrats	Movie ("Planet of the Apes"	College Football Toyota Gator Bowl Florida State vs. West	College Football Toyota Gator Bowl Florida State vs. West	War Stories With Oliver North		husband and tather. Trading Spaces	College Football Toyota Gator Bowl Florida State vs. West
19:00 19:30	Movie () "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" (2001)	(2001) Mark Wahlberg, Tim	Virginia. From Jacksonville, Fla.	Virginia. From Jacksonville, Fla.	war acories with Uliver North		Iraumy Spaces	Virginia. From Jacksonville, Fla.
20:00	Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint. J.K. Rowling's student wizard	Roth. An astronaut crashes on a world dominated by ages.	(Live)	(Live)	Wall Street Journal		Tru Calling "Haunted"	(Live)
20:30	J.K. Howling's student wizard has his first adventure.				Army Newswatch	College Basketball Georgia	1 -]
21:00	Movie II "Harry Potter and the	(:15) Movie (* "The Lost Bat- talion" (2001, Drama) Rick			Next at CNN	Tech at Kansas. (Live)	1-800-Missing Dreams lead to a missing person case.	
21:30	Chamber of Secrets" (2002)	Schroder, Adam James, Adam	Post Game	ESPNews	FOX News		Friends "The One in Vegas"	ESPNews
22:30	Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint. A malevolent force threatens	Kotz.	College Football Rose Bowl	College Football Rose Bowl		NFL Live	Seinfeld "The Pitch"	College Football Rose Bowl
23:00	the students at Hogwarts.	Movie ("Crossroads" (1986,	Michigan vs. Texas. From Pasadena. Calif. (Live)	Michigan vs. Texas. From Pasadena, Calif. (Live)	FOX News	ESPNews	The Real World	Michigan vs. Texas. From Pasadena, Calf. (Live)
23:30		Drama) Ralph Macchio.	r asauelid, Udlii. (LIVE)	r asauelid, Udlii. (LIVE)	l	ESPNews	Punk'd	r asauchid, Udil. (LIVE)



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		Updated sports listi	AFR ngs are available on the first	TS Televisio Scoreboard page in the spo	orts section or AFN's Web si	ite at http://myafn.dodmedia.	osd.mil/	
	CARL MARKET	(APPLICATION APPLICATION APPLI	(AMILEI MANE)	SATURDAY, JANUAR		(THI ORDER	(0)	(TELLELANE)
	(AFN-FAMILY) Static Shock	(7:00) Movie "Tombstone"	AFN-EUROPE Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	AFN-KOREA Access Hollywood	(AFN-NEWS) Headline News	(AFN-SPORTS) NBA Basketball Philadelphia	(SPECTRUM)	AFN-PACIFIC Access Hollywood
9:00	Kim Possible "Mother's Day"	(:21) Movie * * * "The Hunt	Drake & Josh "The Bet"	Access nollywood	Air Force TV News	76ers at Denver Nuopets, From	Clean nouse	Access nollywood
10:00	Teen Titans 'Fear Itself'	for Red October" (1990) Sean Connery, Alec Baldwin. A Sovi-	That's So Raven	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	the Pepsi Center in Denver. (Taned)	BBQ With Bobby Flay	Headline News
10:30	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turt.	et nuclear submarine heads to-	Switched! "Will and Matf" Radio Free Roscoe	ESPNews	The O'Reilly Factor	()	\$40-a-Day Fashion Police	ESPNews
11:00	Dragonball GT Justice League	ward the coast of Maine.	American Adventurer	George Lopez Half & Half	The O Helliy Factor	SportsCenter	It's Good to Be	According to Jim Half & Half
12:00	Teen Kids News (EI)	(11:51) Movie ***: "Out of	Access Hollywood	CSI: Miami "Wannabe"	Dateline NBC		101 Most Unforgettable SNL	CSI: Miami "Wannabe"
12:30	Tutenstein (EI)	Africa" (1985, Drama) Meryl Streep, Robert Redford, Klaus			1	College Gameday	Moments	
13:00	Endurance "The Finale" (EI) Scout's Safari "Potions" (EI)	Maria Brandauer, Based on	WWE Raw	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Sick"		College Football Chick-fil-A	Intimate Portrait "Cokie Roberts"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Sick"
14:00	Skunked TV Zoo visitors pose	Isak Dinesen's account of her plantation life	According to Jim	Headline News	Economy Watch	Peach Bowl Florida vs. Mia-	Antiques Roadshow 'Sacra-	Headline News
14:30	for a caricature.		Half & Half	Saturday Night Live		mi. From Atlanta.	mento, California' (Part 2 of 2)	Saturday Night Live
15:00	The Most Extreme "Swarms"	(:06) Movie *** "Fearless" (1993, Drama) Jeff Bridges. A	CSI: Miami "Wannabe"		CNN Saturday Morning	College Gameday	Star Trek: Voyager "Initiations"	
15:30 16:00	Hercules: The Legendary	plane crash survivor is drawn to	Law & Order: Special Victims	Kickin' It Latest in music and	Bulls and Bears	College Gameday	Ripley's Believe It or Not	Kickin' It Latest in music and
16:30	Journeys 'Outcast'	a grieving woman.	Unit "Sick"	trends.	Cavuto on Business		1	trends.
17:00	Aaahh! Real Monsters	Movie * * * "While You Were	The 116th Annual Tourna- ment of Roses Parade (Live)	The Entertainers	Forbes	College Football Outback Bowl Georgia vs. Wisconsin.	Fear Factor	The Entertainers
17:30	Rocket Power The Fairly OddParents	Sleeping" (1995, Comedy) Sandra Bullock, Bill Pullman,	illent of hoses Parade (Live)	ESPNews	America's Black Forum CNN Live Saturday	From Tampa, Fla. (Live)	What Not to Wear "Ken" A new	ESPNews
18:00	Rugrats	Peter Gallagher.	College Football Toyota Gator	College Football Toyota Gator	CHIN LIVE Salurday		husband and father.	College Football Toyota Gator
19:00	Movie ** * "Harry Potter	Movie ★★ "Planet of the	Bowl Florida State vs. West	Bowl Florida State vs. West	War Stories With Oliver North	i	Trading Spaces	Bowl Florida State vs. West
19:30	and the Sorcerer's Stone" (2001) Daniel Raddiffe, Rupert	Apes" (2001) Mark Wahlberg, Tim Roth. An astronaut crashes	Virginia. From Jacksonville, Fla. (Live)	Virginia. From Jacksonville, Fla. (Live)				Virginia. From Jacksonville, Fla. (Live)
20:00	Grint, J.K. Rowling's student	on a world dominated by apes.			Wall Street Journal Army Newswatch	College Basketball Georgia	Tru Calling "Haunted"	
21:00	wizard has his first adventure.	(:15) Movie ★★% "The Lost			Next at CNN	Tech at Kansas. (Live)	1-800-Missing Dreams lead to	1
21:30	Movie * * * "Harry Potter	Battalion" (2001, Drama) Rick Schroder, Adam James, Adam					a missing person case.	
22:00	and the Chamber of Secrets" (2002) Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert	Kotz.	Post Game College Football Rose Bowl	ESPNews College Football Rose Bowl	FOX News	NFL Live	Friends "The One in Vegas" Seinfeld "The Pitch"	ESPNews College Football Rose Bowl
22:30	Grint. A malevolent force threat- ens the students at Hogwarts.	Movie * * "Crossroads"	Michigan vs. Texas. From	Michigan vs. Texas. From	FOX News	ESPNews	The Real World	Michigan vs. Texas. From
23:30	ens trie students at nogwarts.	(1986, Drama) Ralph Macchio.	Pasadena, Calif. (Live)	Pasadena, Calif. (Live)		ESPNews	Punk'd	Pasadena, Calif. (Live)
				SUNDAY, JANUARY	2, 2005			
00:00	Movie *** "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone"	(11:00) Movie * * "Cross- roads" (1986) Ralph Macchio.	(10:30) College Football Rose Bowl Michigan vs. Texas.	(10:30) College Football Rose Bowl Michigan vs. Texas.	Headline News McLaughlin Group Awards.	College Football SBC Cotton Bowl Tennessee vs. Texas	Mad TV	(10:30) College Football Rose Bowl Michigan vs. Texas.
1:00	(2001) Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert	(12:51) Movie *** "Speed"	From Pasadena, Calif. (Live)	From Pasadena, Calif. (Live)	The Capital Gang	A&M. From Dallas. (Live)	Trading Spaces	From Pasadena, Calif. (Live)
1:30	Grint. J.K. Rowling's student wizard has his first adventure.	(1994) Keanu Reeves. A transit			,			
2:00		bus is wired to explode if it drops below 50 mph.		Headline News	Washington Week in Review		Tru Calling "Haunted"	Headline News
2:30	Movie *** "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets"	Movie + + "Planet of the	College Football Tostitos Fies- ta Bowl Pittsburgh vs. Utah.	College Football Tostitos Fies- ta Bowl Pittsburgh vs. Utah. From Tempe. Ariz. (Live)	Headline News Larry King Live		1-800-Missing Dreams lead to	College Football Tostitos Fies- ta Bowl Pittsburgh vs. Utah.
3:30	(2002) Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint. A malevolent force threat-	Apes" (2001) Mark Wahlberg.	From Tempe, Ariz. (Live)	From Tempe, Ariz. (Live)		ESPNews	a missing person case.	From Tempe, Ariz. (Live)
4:00	ens the students at Hogwarts.	Tim Roth. An astronaut crashes on a world dominated by apes.			At Large With Geraldo Rivera		Friends "The One in Vegas"	
4:30 5:00	Sesame Street (EI)	(:15) Movie ** "The Lost			Dateline International	Inside the NFL	Seinfeld "The Pitch" Breathingspace Yoga	
5:00	Sesame Street (CI)	Battalion" (2001 Drama) Bick			Dateline international	ESPNews	Caribbean Workout	1
6:00	Barney & Friends (EI)	Schroder, Adam James, Adam Kotz	Celebration of Victory	Gilligan's Island	Big Story Weekend Edition	College Basketball Hawaii at	Area	Madeline
6:30	Blue's Clues Sylvester & Tweety	Movie *** "Pretty Woman"	Coral Ridge Hour Word in the World	The Simpsons MotorWeek	CNN Saturday Night	Nevada. (Taped)	Swamp Critters	Happily Ever After MotorWeek
7:00 7:30	Scooby Doo	(1990) Richard Gere, An execu-	Cafe Video Christian music	Ebert-Movies	CNN Saturday Night		Harvest	Ebert-Movies
8:00	The Magic School Bus (EI)	tive plays Pygmalion to a young streetwalker.	Madeline	WWE Smackdown!	The Beltway Boys	SportsCenter	Epiphany: Festival of Lights	WWE Smackdown!
8:30	The Jetsons	(:13) Movie +++x "The Pa-	Happily Ever After Movie ** "Genius" (1999.		Fox News Watch		Celebration at Tarpon Springs.	
9:00 9:30	Animaniacs	(:13) Movie ***: "The Pa- per" (1994, Drama) Michael	Comedy) Trevor Morgan, Emmy	Andromeda Crew must stop an android army.	Headline News America's Black Forum	College Football Rose Bowl Michigan vs. Texas, From	Latin Lifestyles Urban Style	Andromeda Crew must stop an android army.
10:00	Ed, Edd n Eddy	Keaton. A tabloid editor pillers a story tip from a rival paper.	Rossum, Charles Fleischer.	Headline News	The Chris Matthews Show	Pasadena, Calif. (Taped)	Fantasy Camp	Headline News
10:30	Fillmore (EI)		AFNews on Assignment	ESPNews	Navy/Marine Corps News	1	Roker on the Road	ESPNews
11:00 11:30	Out There Planet's Funniest Animals	Movie *** "Escape From New York" (1981) Kurt Russell.	MotorWeek Ebert-Movies	Judging Amy "Motion Sick- ness"	Big Story Weekend Edition	1	Radical Sabbatical All-American Festivals	Judging Amy "Motion Sick- ness"
12:00	NBA Inside Stuff	The president is missing in the	Headline News	Movie * * "Men in Black II"	20/20	1	The Suze Orman Show	Movie * * "Men in Black II"
12:30	Happy Days "Haunted"	prison city of Manhattan.	Army Newswatch	(2002, Science Fiction) Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith.		SportsCenter		(2002, Science Fiction) Tommy Lee Jones. Will Smith.
13:00	Movie ** "A Saintly Switch" (1999, Fantasy) David	(12:47) Movie *** "Fre- quency" (2000) Dennis Quaid.	College Football Outback Bowl Georgia vs. Wisconsin.		Fox and Friends	Cellege Feetbell Testil	Celebrity Poker Showdown	
13:30	Alan Grier, Vivica A. Fox.	A man communicates with his	From Tampa, Fla. (Taped)	The Simpsons Headline News	Fox and Friends	College Football Tostitos Fies- ta Bowl Pittsburgh vs. Utah.		The Simpsons Headline News
14:30	Movie ** "The Garbage- Picking Field Goal-Kicking,	long-dead father via ham radio.		Scrubs		From Tempe, Ariz. (Taped)		Scrubs
15:00	Picking Field Goal-Kicking, Philadelphia Phenomenon"	Movie ** "Fools Rush In" (1997, Comedy) Matthew Perry.	SportsCenter	Meet the Press	CBS News Sunday Morning		American Commandos	Meet the Press
15:30	Aaahh! Real Monsters	Pregnancy pushes one-shot	WWE Smackdown!	America's Black Forum			JAG "Valor"	America's Black Forum
16:00 16:30	Rocket Power	lovers into a difficult marriage.		Access Hollywood	Face the Nation	SportsCenter		Access Hollywood
17:00	The Fairly OddParents	True Hollywood Story	Andromeda Crew must stop an		Headline News	NFL Countdown	The Best Of	
17:30	Rugrats Kratt Bros. Be the Creature	1	android army. Fox NFL Sunday (Live)	ESPNews NFL Today (Live)	Navy/Marine Corps News Late Edition Primetime	4	Good Eats My Wife and Kids	ESPNews NFL Today (Live)
18:00 18:30	Chimpanzees.		FUX NFL Sunday (Live)	MFL IOUAY (LIVE)	Late Edition Primetime		King of the Hill "Pigmalion"	NFL TODAY (EIVE)
19:00	America's Funniest Home	Movie *** "Gladiator"	NFL Football Regional Cover-	NFL Football Regional Cover-	1	NFL Football Regional Cover-	Hope & Faith	NFL Football Regional Cover-
19:30	Videos	(2000, Action) Russell Crowe, Joaquin Phoenix, Connie	NFL Football Regional Cover- age Detroit at Tenn., Green Bay at Chicago, Minn. at Wash.,	age Cincinnati at Phila., Cleveland at Houston, Miami at		age Detroit at Tenn., Green Bay at Chicago, Minn. at Wash.	All of Us	age Cincinnati at Phila., Cleveland at Houston, Miami at
20:00	Gilmore Girls "Tick, Tick, Tick Boom"	Nielsen. A fugitive general be-	N.O. at Car. or San Francisco at	Balt N.Y. Jets at St. Louis or	FOX News	N.O. at Car. or San Francisco a	Last Comic Standing	Balt., N.Y. Jets at St. Louis or
20:30	American Dreams 'Shoot the	comes a gladiator in ancient Rome.	New England. (Live)	Pitt. at Buffalo. (Live)	FOX News	New England. (Live)	NCIS "The Good Samaritan"	Pitt. at Buffalo. (Live)
21:30	Moon"	Movie ★% "The Suburbans"		1		1		
22:00	The Cosby Show	(1999, Comedy) Craig Bierko, Amy Brenneman	NFL Football Regional Cover-	NFL Football Regional Cover-	Meet the Press	NFL Football Regional Cover-	Friends	NFL Football Regional Cover- age Indianapolis at Denver,
22:30 23:00	Home Improvement Touched by an Angel "Cry		age Atlanta Falcons at Seat- tle Seahawks or Tampa Bay Buccaneers at Ariz, Cardinals.	age Indianapolis at Denver, Jacksonville at Oakland or	FNS with Chris Wallace	age Atlanta Falcons at Seat- tle Seahawks or Tampa Bay	Seinfeld "The Ticket" Mad TV	Jacksonville at Oakland or
23:00	and You Cry Alone"	rv Glen Ross" (1992)	Buccaneers at Ariz. Cardinals.	Kansas City at San Diego.	UIII UIIII Wallaud	Buccaneers at Ariz. Cardinals.		Kansas City at San Diego.



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FACES

Judge: Bobbitt not to blame for fight

John Wayne Bobbitt has been acquitted of charges that he battered family members after the discovery of a sex

toy in his bedroom



In finding Bobbitt innocent of domestic violence, a Las

Vegas judge ruled Monday that Bobbitt's 14-year-old stepson was to

blame for the August fight. Bobbitt gained fame in 1993 when his first wife, Lorena, sexually muti-

lated him Monday's trial focused on a scuffle involving Bobbitt's stepson and the boy's mother, Joanna Ferrell, who is Bobbitt's wife of three years. Bobbitt, 37, had faced four misde-

nor battery counts. Witnesses testified the teen be-came enraged after finding the sex toy. He began throwing things

around the living room until Bobbitt confronted him.

After the acquittal, Municipal Court Judge Pro-Tem Gary Lang reprimanded Bobbitt for failing to attend court-ordered anger management classes after a 2003 domestic violence conviction, and said Bobbitt would suffer serious repercussions if he failed to show up for his re-maining 23 weeks of classes.

'Battleship Potemkin' gets new airing

A newly reconstructed version of the 1925 Soviet silent classic "Battleship Potemkin," featuring shots cut from the original, will premiere at the Berlin Film Festival in

"Battleship Potemkin," directed by Sergei Eisenstein, dramatizes the mutiny on the Russian ship and its role in inspiring a failed 1905 uprising against the country's czars. It is perhaps best known for the "Odessa steps" sequence, in which a child in a stroller rolls down a staircase as fighting rages around it.

with live musical accompaniment from The movie the German Film Orchestra Babelsberg — will be shown Feb. 12 and Feb. 13. The festival runs Feb. 10-20.

Boxing referee Lane honored

Former judge, boxing referee and TV personality Mills Lane was honored near the site of a Reno, Nev., justice center that will be named for him.

Lane, 67, who suffered a stroke nearly three years ago.

took part in the ceremonies, but did not speak. His son, Terry, said it was just his father's second public appearance since the stroke.

The ceremony took place in the existing court building next to the site of the future Mills B. Lane Justice Center. Lane formerly served as Washoe County district attorney and district court judge

He officiated 102 championship fights, including the 1997 heavyweight match in which Mike Tyson bit off a piece of Evander Holyfield's ear. Lane also was a TV judge from 1998-2001

Contestants to begin 'quest for Ken'

If winning more than \$2.5 million wasn't enough, "Jeopardy!" whiz **Ken Jennings** will have a shot at winning an additional \$2 million — but the competition will be tougher this time around.

"Super Tournament" will pit Jennings in a final match against two survivors of a competition among nearly 150 past five-time winners, producers of the game show an-

nounced Tuesday.

Host Alex Trebek called the tournament the "quest for Ken

"Ever since Ken started his amazing run, people have been speculat-ing on how some of the past 'Jeopar-dy!' players would do against him," Trebek said in a statement. "We're answering that question

Jennings earned \$2,520,700 after a 74-game winning



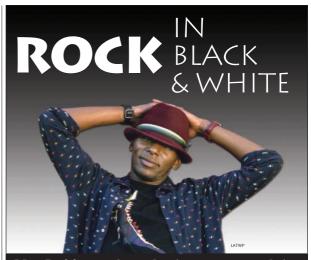
Exploring the body with 'Sesame Street' "Sesame Street" characters have gone around the

globe and into space, and soon they'll be exploring the human body Sesame Workshop, a nonprofit educational organiza-

tion, is creating a series of museum learning experiences and "Sesame Street Presents: The Body" is first up. It will premiere at the Arizona Science Center in Phoenix in May and run through November.

The exhibit will emphasize scientific investigation and developmental- and curriculum-based learning goals for children ages 2 to 8.

Stories and obtos from wire services



Mos Def faces obstacles in quest to reclaim role for black musicians in rock music

By RICHARD CROMELIN Los Angeles Times

HOLLYWOOD - Rock 'n' roll and rap, the dominant pop music styles of the past half-century, both originated in black music, but when it comes to mixing the two, there's been good times (Run-DMC and Aerosmith's "Walk This Way," Danger Mouse's "The Grey Album") and there's been bad times (Limp Bizkit and its lunkhead progeny).

That last one was bad enough to make one promising rapper all but torpedo his career momentum in order to clear the tainted air

"I don't like insincerity in people and I hate it when peo-ple pose," says Mos Def, 30. "I was really, really frustrated when I would see these bands that were derivative of what hip-hop was. They would take like a rock riff and sprinkle some hip-hop on it and oh, it was this amazing thing. . That [stuff] has been done before and it's been done better I just got tired of it.

Mos Def's first two major records, the collaborative "Mos Def & Talib Kweli Are Black Star" in 1998 and his 1999 debut solo album, "Black on Both Sides," established the Brooklyn native as a beacon of hin-hon's progressive

But it's taken five years for the recently released follow-up, "The New Danger," to appear, largely because of his Ahab-like quest to reclaim rock for black musicians.

"I think there is a social and racial dynamic that comes into play," he says. "Limp Bizkit and those bands were like these mannequins, these caricatures of what we started. and the people who were really doin' it are not being recognized at all. It's the classic story.

"So I just did it myself. I worked on it as my little experi-

He called his project Black Jack Johnson, named for the controversial boxing champion whose travails a century ago have made him a symbol of racial persecution. Mos Def's "Black on Both Sides" was dominated by a jazzy R&B-flavored brand of hip-hop, but the next one would rock those pretenders back into obscurity and exalt the leg-acy of such African American rock bands as Fishbone.

Gathering a powerful hard-rock band made up of guitarist Dr. Know from Bad Brains, Parliament Funkadelic keyboardist Bernie Worrell and two members of Living Colour, bassist Doug Wimbish and drummer Will Calhoun,

Word of this intriguing project got around, spurred by a

few live appearances, but the record never came. After three years, Mos Def says, executives at his label, the now-defunct MCA Records, said they didn't want rock.

now-neutrict arCA. Recorus, said they didn't want rock.
They wanted a Mos Def record.
"What was an insult to me was [the idea that] Black Jack
Johnson is not Mos Def," says the rapper. "Why's it so unusual to do this? Chuck Berry, Remember him? Little Richand? Bo Diddley? It's not a big deal, but I would get treat. ed like I was entering some other realm or some altered destiny.

"It was honest; it was what I wanted to hear." Sitting at a poolside table at the Chateau Marmont during a recent visit to Los Angeles, Mos Def — born Dante

Smith - doesn't seem like a crusading firebrand. His manner is more that of a scholar and teacher. He speaks with a soft, caressing voice and avoids eye contact, gazing into the distance or glancing downward during an early afternoon interview

His early promise and his position as a respected, guru-like pundit in the hip-hop community raised expectations high for "The New Danger," whose final version intersperses some of the Black Jack Johnson rock material with an array of R&B-flavored hip-hop tracks.

But sales have been modest (252,000 since its release in October) and the reviews have been mixed. Even many of the admiring commentaries have noted the album's unnness and sprawl.

Meantime, hip-hop had a grip on him from the day he heard Run-DMC's "It's Like That" booming from the doorway of a Bronx social club. Two decades later, the magic and meaning of that culture continue to enthrall him. "People treat hip-hop like an isolated phenomenon." he

says.
"They don't treat it as a continuum, a history or a legacy. And it really is. And like all mediums or movements, it came out of a need. Like the Beat era came out of a need and a response to a social climate, a political climate, a personal climate. That's all that any art really is, and it's no ac-cident when these things get airborne and expand. Because they're timely, and they're speaking to what's really

"It's not the bad artists that's the problem, because they're not gonna be around for very long. The tragedy is with good artists who don't believe in themselves and be-come disillusioned and disenchanted. That's the real tragedy, when a guy starts with something that he really believes in, and then stops believing in his own taste or his own gut, that's really sad."



Britain, Ireland: Cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the low to mid 50s, Saturday lows in the mid 30s to

France: Partly cloudy with isolated

Northern Italy: Partly cloudy. Highs

Southern Italy: Partly cloudy with iso-lated thunderstorms along the south-ern coast. Highs in the upper 50s, Saturday lows in the mid to upper

Kosovo: Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 30s, Saturday lows in the upper 20s

Norway: Partly cloudy with isolated rain/snowshowers. Highs in the upper 20s to lower40s along the coastal regions, Saturday lows in the

12 59 63 72 28 43 45 32 73 68 89 34 56 First qtr. 17 Jan 05 Last qtr. 2 Feb 05 TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK THE UNITED STATES TODAY As of noon Eastern IIS time Lo Oti Cidy Snow Rain Cidy PCidy PCid Rain Rain PCialy, Snow PCialy, Snow PCialy, Snow PCialy, Snow PCialy, Snow PCialy, Snow PCialy, PCialy 25 88 5 27 28 75 8 28 28 8 28 4 4 28 4 11 41 50 5 53 4 53 4 7 4 4 9 53 25 46 5 41 32 62 57 39 59 24 8 34 1 40 39 35 32 47 25 0 24 30 35 35 34 7 27 4715 7976 65 5572 7224 577 62 73 48 56 61 52 66 60 59 65 69 40 44 66 77 66 44 27 72 72 37 -8 711 62 50 39 56 46 46 59 28 39 51 31 53 46 47 44 44 29 11 55 67 44 29 11 56 53 53 65 45 65 47 77 63 85 53 56 57 58 99 41 44 52 55 65 33 34 66 63 55 46 m 55 84 44 57 17 62 54 54 83 48 36 70 42 73 39 27 52 30 56 69 53 45 43 73 25 13 49 35 55 22 16 32 24 38 47 38 50 59 51 41 15 54 58 43 66 47 57 40 40 25 55 53 36 31 37 40 3 40 47 39 59 PCIdy Rain Rain PCIdy PC 458 53 2 29 41 41 63 35 39 29 48 46 46 23 72 77 41 59 67 71 67 72 58 76 70 51 55 34 PCId PCId Rair Cld PCId POId POId Rair Snow Cld) PCld) Cld) PCld) PCidy Cidy Cidy Snow Cidy PCidy Cidy 28 -10 22 Salem, Ore. Salt Lake C San Angelo San Antonio 888 Cld

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Airborne birth

AK KETCHIKAN — The term "airborne" took on a new meaning when a woman gave birth high above Southeast Alaska on a floatplane that was evacuating her after her labor began earlier then expected

The baby girl was delivered safely to Jenifer Chinuhuk aboard a Pacific Airways floatplane. Isabelle Chinuhuk weighed in at 5 pounds, 9 ounces, and was 191/4 inches long.

Jenifer and husband Jamie Chinuhuk had not expected the birth of Isabelle until mid-January, but when Jenifer's labor began on Sunday, a medical evacuation was arranged and she was brought to the Metlakatla dock by ambulance

Two doctors were on the flight but Jamie Chinuhuk had to stay behind because there was not enough room on the plane.

Dentist pleads guilty

BOCA RATON — A dentist pleaded guilty to aggravated manslaughter in the death of his 3-year-old son, accidentally left in a parked vehicle in July

Dennis Sierra, 43, entered the plea to avoid the anguish of a trial, his attorney said.

The judge sentenced Sierra to 10 years of probation and 500 hours of community service.

Sierra took his son Andres to work with him July 15 at his practice west of Boca Raton. He parked and went inside, forgetting that his son was in a car seat in the back, according to sheriff's officials.

Youthful diets

NH ROCHESTER — Now that the junk food is gone, officials will be monitoring middle school pupils' middles to see if they shed any extra pounds.

The Health and Nutrition Task Force formed last March to tackle obesity in schools will determine whether healthier snacks make a difference in reducing obesity, said its founder, Walter Hoerman, a pediatrician.

A student's aerobic capacity, body composition and muscle strength, endurance and flexibility will be measured in fitness grams. Activities such as running times, pull-ups, shoulder stretch curl-ups are all part of the tests.

Students are compared not to each other, but to health fitness standards, established for each age and gender, according to the Cooper Institute, which developed the fitness gram

Air passengers take bus

IA DES MOINES — Welcome and thank you for using Des Moines International Airport! Please have your boarding pass and ID ready as you approach the ... bus? A combination of two canceled flights and holiday travel snags forced United Airlines to bus passengers about 330 miles to Chicago to catch connecting flights.

Passengers said they were told the next United flight from Des Moines to Chicago with any extra room would be Thursday or Friday, so United chartered two buses



Monday and another Tuesday to

send passengers on their way. A United spokesman attributed the travel problems to snowstorms that socked the Northeast over the weekend and left the airline short-staffed across the country.

School district grows

MERIDIAN — Idaho's fast-est-growing school district intends to ask taxpayers for \$80 million in bonding next year to cover growth in western Ada County. The district had planned for 400 new students to arrive in September, but 1,400 showed up.

Another 175 arrived between Sept. 1 and Nov. 1. The bonds would be used to build a new high school, a new middle school and up to four elementary schools

Smuggling 'Santa'

OH CLEVELAND — The packages were labeled as tovs for good girls and boys and the business was called Santa's Helpers. But authorities say the packages were nothing more than a naugh ty ruse to cover a large-scale drug smuggling operation.

The bogus business tried to smuggle \$7.8 million worth of cocaine from Los Angeles to nearby Willoughby, authorities said.

Drug agents seized about 175



Colorful sky

A clear, winter sky is draped by jet trails and the glow of the sun as it falls behind an S&S Feed Mills in Shawnee, Okla.

pounds of cocaine in the largest seizure in Cleveland this year. Four 55-gallon steel drums used as shipping containers raised susnicions. Billing information said the barrels contained toys, novelties and games.

Federal prosecutors charged Edward Boynton, 35, of Inglewood, Calif., with in-tent to possess cocaine. Boynton appeared in U.S. District

Senator back in prison

NEW YORK — Former state Sen. Guy Velella returned to Riker's Island prison. A state judge refused to issue an interim stay that would keep Velella free while the state's highest court decides whether to hear his apneal The former Brony lawmaker stepped down earlier this year, a week before he pleaded guilty to a charge in connection with an influence-peddling scheme.

Rating child care centers

PHOENIX - A state board is developing a rating sys-tem for licensed child care centers to help parents determine the quality of the 2,000 centers in the state. The Arizona School Readiness Board would use criteria like teacheducation level, stuers dent-to-teacher ratios and curriculum. The governor has said a rating system should include financial incentives for centers.

Fighting invasive plants

HARPERS FERRY - Officials at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park are trying to rid the park of some unwanted guests: invasive plants that could crowd out native growth.

One of these invasive plants, known as Tree-of-Heaven, robs moisture from the soil and its canopy blocks out sun to other plants, according to park Superintendent Donald Campbell.

Campbell and other park emplovees are concerned about how the tree is affecting native trees such as dogwoods, oaks and ma-

The park, which is located at the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers, stretches across parts of West Virginia, Virginia and Maryland.

So far, no native species have been lost, even though many of the invasive species have been there since the land became part of the National Park System in 1944 according to Campbell. He believes the native species can be saved if nark officials act immediately to save them

Must disclose names

COLUMBUS - A pro-business group that spent \$4 million on a TV campaign to unseat a justice must disclose donors' names, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled. The court dismissed the group's appeal, saving it did not involve any substantial constitutional question. The Ohio Elections Commission ordered the group in 2002 to list donors. It said the ads against Justice Alice Robie Resnick went beyond what "issue advocacy" groups are allowed to



Melissa Packard walks with her daughter, Unusual pet Charlotte, 5, as Goldie, an orphaned buck. gives chase in Hill Country Village, a surburb of San Antonio. Packard said the buck was left by its mom, who did not return for several days. The family took in the deer, feeding and caring for it.



Greg and Annie Moore of Kearney, Playing in the park Neb., play some basketball at Pioneer Park. The couple brought their children and the dog to the park on a sunny afternoon.



Practice makes perfect

Sweet trap

From left, Becky Christian, 11, and Sarah Rordan 12, practice figure skating on the frozen lagoon in Sacajawea Park in Livingston, Mont.



Market Studios North co-owner Watch your head Daniel Brown peers out of the studio's second-floor window to take a look at the numerous icicles that have formed along the building in Troy, Ohio.



Nadine Correa, 8, top, stands on top of Amanda Benavides's shoulders and reaches with a borrowed fishing pole in an effort to retrieve a kite stuck on the top of a light pole in Corpus, Christi, Texas.



A squirrel attempts to shake its head loose from the top of an ice cream treat in Daytona Beach, Fla.

Shrimping extension

GA BRUNSWICK — Georgia's shrimping season has been extended indefinitely because of an abundant shrimp population. The season was to end at 5 a.m. New Year's Day before the state Department of Natural Resources extended it. Affected are commercial trawlers in Georgia territorial waters up to 3 miles offshore and recreational shrimpers using cast nets and beach seines.

Feather fight

SALT LAKE CITY — A battle is brewing over the rights of whites who practice American Indian religion to use federally restricted eagle feathers in ceremonies.

Two federal statutes - the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act - limit the right to have the feathers to members of federally recognized tribes. The feathers are the most powerful objects in the culture's ceremonies, and tribal members must earn the right to handle them.

Many tribal members, backed up by the federal government, say feathers and other eagle parts should be reserved for American Indians as a way of preserving the culture.

The federal laws make an exception for enrolled tribal members who practice an American Indian religion, allowing such members to get a permit to possess eagle feathers and parts

She wants it all now

BOSTON - A 94-year-old woman who won a \$5.6 million dollar Megabucks lottery drawing in September wants to get the cash now instead of a 20-year annuity payout.

Louise Outing of Everett said she won't live to collect her full winnings, and she wants to be able to help her family and spend the money as she chooses.

On Tuesday, she asked Norfolk Superior Court Judge Barbara Dortch-Okara to order the state lottery commission to give her the full amount of her winnings, minus tayes

But the lottery commission said Megabucks winners have never been paid lump-sum amounts. Executive Director Joseph Sullivan said only the multistate Mega Millions game offers a lump-sum option.

Careful what you drink

CA SALINAS — About 30,000 customers of California Water Service Co. were urged to boil tan water before drinking or cooking after power outages caused the water system's pressure to drop. The company said it won't know whether water quality was affected until tests are completed Wednesday. Customers will be reimbursed for bottled water nurchases.

Driving doggie

SPRINGDALE - Michael Henson left the auto parts store with more problems than when he arrived. For that, he can thank his dog.

Henson, whose truck had been

experiencing a sticking throttle, left his dog in the truck when he went into the O'Reilly Auto Parts store in Springdale on Sunday.

"He'd left the truck running - I guess to show the people at O'Reilly's — and the dog jumped over and knocked the truck into gear,' police Sgt. Billy Turnbough said.

The truck raced into the building, stunning Henson and clerk Josh Hopper

No one was hurt and no citations were issued, police said.

High foreclosures rate

PA SUNBURY — Mortgage foreclosures in Northumberland County are approaching an all-time high, according to the Sheriff's Department Maria Birster, the real estate officer, reports 191 sheriff's sales so far this vear. She says that's up from 159 in 2003 and more than the 187 mortgage foreclosures recorded in

Birster says all the foreclosures have been on homes.

Hand fishing test

MO COLUMBIA — Next summer, it will be legal to plunge into some Missouri rivers and grab catfish by hand — a type of fishing that is not for the faint of heart

Known variously as noodling or hogging, handfishing has long been a misdemeanor punishable by fines, because state officials fear it depletes breeding-age cat-. It can also be dangerous: Noodlers hold their breath for long neriods under water and sometimes come up with fistfuls of agitated snakes or snapping turtles instead of fish

That does not discourage enthusiasts, who insist there is great sportsmanship in fishing with your hare hands.

So after years of urging by noodlers, and lopsided legislative support for easing up on handfishers, the Missouri Conservation Commission has approved an ex-perimental handfishing season next summer. Forms of handfishing are already legal in 11 states, including neighboring Oklahoma, Arkansas and Illinois

Florida Hall of Fame

TALLAHASSEE - Marion Hammer, a former president of the National Rifle Association, was named to the Florida Women's Hall of Fame by Gov. Jeb Bush. Also named were Shirley Coletti, considered a leader in the development of communi-ty-based treatment of mental health, and Judith Kersey, who has spent 36 years as a scientist and advocate for women in science.

Fighting school dropout

SPRINGFIELD - Mayor MA SPRINGFILLS
Charles Ryan appointed an 11-member youth commission to combat a rising high school dropout rate and a surge in violent crime. The panel is charged with improving academic and social opportunities for Springfield children. Springfield's dropout rate in 2003 was 8.5 percent, more than double the statewide rate of 3.3 percent.

Stories and photos from The Associated

STARS STRIPES | LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THOMAS BIERMANN, General Manager, Europe LT. COL. CYRIL I. SOCHA Commander

News and Editorial

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able for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affilia tion, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user, or patron.

Keep Jesus out of politics

There has been an ongoing debate on this page over whether Jesus was a liberal or conservative. This is a relevant subject considering that we're coming off an election in which conservative politicians effectively took advantage of so many people who believe in Christianity.

The Dec. 9 letter "Different view of Jesus" argued that Jesus supports retribution and pre-emptive war. There are some serious problems with this argument. For one, Jesus was an extreme pacifist. After he was nailed to a cross, crowned with thorns, was named to a cross, crowned with thorns, beaten, whipped and publicly humiliated he asked God to "forgive them, for they know not what they do." Does that sound like someone who would support a destructive, pre-emptive war like the one in Iraq

Furthermore, the writer tries to use the Ten Commandments as an example of how "Jesus is stern." Do the Ten Commandments not say "Thou shalt not kill"? It clearly states that it is not OK to kill.

Another point the writer makes is that conservatives are against slavery; he uses Abraham Lincoln as an example. While I do believe most conservatives today are against slavery, they endorse policies that hurt African-Americans and other minori ties Also Lincoln was definitely not a conservative. In the 1860s, America's political parties were different than what they are today. The Republicans were the liberals and the Democrats the conservatives.

If religious conservatives, such as the let-

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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ter writers who argue that Jesus is a Repub-

lican, make up a majority of my country, then I will gladly stay in the minority until another 3 percent of voters change their minds

> Sgt. Luis Ortiz Camp Spearhead, Kuwait

Kuwait troops not on vacation This letter goes out to the writer of "A complaint on complaining" (letter, Dec. 21). who is stationed in Iraq. The "vay cay" here in Kuwait is going great, except for a couple of problems. The other day I had to wait about 20 minutes at Burger King for my two Whoppers. We can't swim in the pool until the heater gets installed. For about a month, the racquetball courts have been closed, due to a light problem. The post exchange

has only 150 DVD titles in stock.

The point I'm trying to get across is that all of us deployed to in Kuwait didn't choose to come here. If you have a problem with us in Kuwait, take it up with the Pentagon, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld or President Bush. It's not like there isn't anybody here who doesn't travel to Iraq. I give a lot of credit to the transportation units that travel to Iraq, risking their lives so troops up north have everything they need.

I'm a carpenter with the 448th Engineer Battalion Combat Heavy, a Reserve battal-ion from Puerto Rico. I have a lot of friends in Iraq right now. If I could be up there with them, I would. It was the luck of the draw that I'm in Kuwait. I am away from my family, too. You think that people back in the States only think about troops in Iraq and Afghanistan? Everybody has family and friends who worry about them.

So the next time you want to say something about us soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines in Kuwait, just remember that you volunteered for your second tour in Iraq. I pray for the safe return of my friends deployed in Iraq with the 980th Engineer Bat-talion, the 458th Engineer Battalion, and the 411th Engineer Battalion.

Spc. Adrian P. Stull Camp Arifjan, Kuwait By GARRY TRIDEAU

Doonesbury (Dec. 31 and Jan. 1)

















Mallard Fillmore (Jan. 1; for Dec. 31 strip, see Page 25)

BY BRUCE TINSLEY





THE. SUPERIOR GRIN I CAN BARELY KEEP IN ... EVERY TIME I DIŚCUSS THE RED STATES ...

OPINION

There's also power in how world responds

natural disaster on the staggering magnitude of the earthquake that struck beneath the Indian Ocean reminds us of our vulnerability, reminds us that the work of human beings, indeed our very existence, can be extinguished in an instant by the immense power of nature.

Humans build. Nature reclaims. It is a cycle as old as time; people enduring the crucibles of drought tornadoes hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanoes, fire.

Now the world watches in utter astonishment and horror at the destruction wrought on Sunday by the most powerful earthquake in decades and the resultant tsunami that exploded on the shores of several nations.

What began off the Indonesian island of Sumatra was felt thousands of miles away as water engulfed villages, tourist beaches and fishing boats across South and Southeast Asia. More than [76,000] people were killed, a number that is destined to grow as thousands of missing people are accounted for. Millions were left homeless in a ring of destruction from Indonesia to Somalia.

Earth's power could barely be comprehended as water traveled at speeds of up to 500 mph - akin to an aircraft hurtling in the sky - with people killed even thousands of miles from the quake's epicen-

It was as if an earthquake hit Los Angeles and killed New Yorkers

"The speed with which it all happened seemed like a scene from the Bible, a natural phenomenon unlike anything I had experienced," wrote The Washington Washington Post's Michael Dobbs, who was among those caught up in the catastrophe

Now, just as naturally as the earth shook, the people of the Earth will come to the aid of those who have been stricken. We come to accept that as an expected response to disaster. But revel in that for just a moment. For all its economic, political and philosophical tensions, this is still a world that responds to great tragedy with great and instant compassion.

The United States immediately committed \$15 million to relief efforts, the European Union pledged \$4 million with, no doubt, more to come as disaster assess ments are made. United Nations relief specialists called for helicopters, medical supplies, tents and portable sanitation facilities. The United States dispatched military aircraft to the effort.

There will, inevitably, be talk about why this vast region did not have a system to warn of such impending devastation. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service operates tsunami warning centers in Hawaii and Alaska. According to news reports, if the Indian Ocean had the type of system that was started in 1965 in the Pacific, thousands of lives might have



What's left of the main bus stand in Galle, Sri Lanka, is shown Tuesday. It was destroyed by massive waves caused by Sunday's magnitude 9.0 earthquake off Indonesia's coast.

been saved if alerts of the impending disaster had been received and coastal areas had been quickly evacuated. There were hours between the time the earthquake was recorded and the walls of water rolled into the coastal areas

Tsunami is a powerful word, a word often used in metaphors for great and uncontrollable forces in politics, sports and other venues

On Sunday, the world saw just how great and uncontrollable a tsunami is, not as a metaphor but as an event of nature. And in the days and weeks ahead we'll see another force, one perhaps more easily controlled, but powerful nonetheless: That's the force of human compassion. human drive, human will to rebuild.

New faces adopted old phrases in Campaign 2004 By MARTIN SCHRAM

Scripps Howard

ooking back, 2004 was the sort of campaign year that could make you flip. Especially if you are a politi-

Take a close look at some key campaign slogans, arguments and policy fighting-word mantras - then compare them with their roots. You will find that the rationalizations dished by America's politicians and the political influencers have come full circle. Which may be one reason why liberals and conservatives sometimes looked ridiculous as they frantically chased their own tails Just look at where the candidates, spin

ners and influence-seekers wound up in their sloganeering on major issues of Campaign 2004 - and compare it with where those same arguments actually began.

Consider the emotional arguments about "states' rights." In 2004, "states' rights" was the rallying cry sounded mainly by liberals who were pushing their favorite solution for legal same-sex marriages

Their rationalization was that the question of whether to legally permit marriage of gay or lesbian couples is the sort of civil right that should be left to the 50 states to decide for themselves

Conservatives who were opposed to legalizing any homosexual marriages argued that this was a matter of national values that must be governed by one national policy that defines a marriage as only a union of male and female couples.

But in the 1950s and 1960s, cries of "states' rights" were played on the flip side It was the conservatives who made "states rights" their mantra, as they argued that it should be up to each state to decide whether to permit segregation of the races in public accommodations and schools. It was the liberals and moderates who championed the argument that civil rights was an inherent right that had to be imposed upon all states. Consider now the battles over deficit

spending. Liberals rallied round the argument that the federal budget deficits are aring, driving the national debt to record heights. And the Democratic team of John Kerry and John Edwards made it a stanle of their stump speeches to argue that it is unconscionable for the federal government to bequeath this vast debt to our children and grandchildren to repay

Conservatives made the case that these deficits are not to be feared, but are just a manageable byproduct of tax-cutting policies that are America's key to prosperity

But listen now to what the original conscience of the conservatives, the late Sen. Barry Goldwater, used to say about the deficit spending brought about by Democratic-controlled Congresses, especially Presi-dent Lyndon Johnson's "Great Society" programs, championed by liberals. "With all the excuses Congress still manages to come un with in support of big spending, the nation is headed for financial disaster," the Arizona Republican wrote in "Goldwater," his autobiography "It's a damp disgrace The Congress has now put Americans about \$2.5 trillion in hock. That's more than \$10,000 for every man, woman and child."

Consider next the wailings of liberals who decried the way Christian evangelical clergymen such as Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell have injected themselves into American politics in pursuit of their conservative fundamentalist agenda, which includes the campaign to han all abortions

But then recall the crucial leadership roles played by clergymen such as Martin Luther King Jr., Andrew Young and, later, Jesse Jackson in forging the civil-rights movement that contributed so much to correcting wrong-headed laws that deprived so many Americans of their rights.

onsider the activist role of a number of Roman Catholic bishops in Campaign 2004. as they said they would not give communion to politicians who advocated policies the church opposed. There is evidence that their position may have had its desired effect

President Bush received 46 percent of the Catholic vote in 2000 against the Protestant Democrat Al Gore. But Bush did 2 percentage points better in 2004, winning 48 percent of the Catholic vote against his Catholic opponent, Kerry. The Massachusetts sena-tor said that, as a Catholic, he personally opposed abortion, but would not allow his religious views to affect his enforcement of U.S. laws and court decisions.

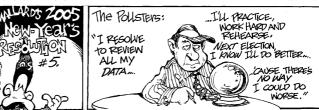
That was the position that U.S. Catholics overwhelmingly cheered - when it was first enunciated, not by Kerry, but by John F. Kennedy, in that historic speech in Houston before Protestant clergy on Sept. 12, 1960. He vowed that he would make decisions on issues including birth control "without regard to outside religious pressure or dictate. And no power or threat of punishment could cause me to decide otherwise

That forthright pledge helped a Catholic Democrat from Massachusetts become America's first Catholic president. And on the flip side, that pledge may have helped prevent a second Catholic Democrat from Massachusetts from becoming president.

By BRUCE TINSLEY

Martin Schram writes political analysis for Scripps Howard News Service.

Mallard Fillmore



Horoscope

Though it's the last day of the vear and therefore the last chance to celebrate 2004, the Virgo moon along with other planetary

influences has us in an industrious mood. Squeezing as much production into the day as possible is a prerequisite for getting into the party mood tonight. The drinking is tempered, as health is a big New Year focus

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (December 31). You're basically hot this year. Look

forward to improved health and vitality. If becoming more fit is one of your New Year's resolutions, you will find it easy to keep through January. This spring, emotional issues regarding home and family are resolved, freeing you up to take full advantage of a period of intense creativity beginning in August

ARIES (March 21-April 19). A woman in your life pokes and prods

at your psyche, inspiring you to re-think your plan for New Year's Eve. What? You still don't have a plan for the evening? At least resolve to take on an enthusiastic attitude

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're feeling energized and can

blow through an entire day's worth of duties in half the time. Why not cut out of a boring situation and spend some time primping for your New Year's celebration? You're gorgeous in green

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your plucky wit doesn't make sense

to everyone - just the most important people. You'll meet someone over food or drinks. Plant yourself by the snack table, and net chatting. By midnight, you've found someone to

CANCER (June 22-July 22).

The most romantic nights are in, not out. Forgo the parties - and drunk in favor of snuggling in front of the TV with your sweetie Single? Host friends or family at vour place.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Any socializing you do tonight is likely to have a strong work component. If

you're not actually going to a job-related event, you may meet someone in your field or exchange business cards with an interesting stranger.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). New Year's bash at your house?

Holiday Mathis

The cosmos is working in your favor - expect to pull it off without a hitch. The place is immaculate, the food

divine .lust remember to stop running around long

enough to have fun!

LIBRA (Sept.

23-0ct. 23). Go ahead and indulge your senses A smorgasbord of gastronomical delights awaits you. You can start your diet tomorrow. Better yet for your best chance for success, wait until after the new

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

moon on Jan. 11.

Clashing with a loved one can be enlightening. Don't fear conflict it's important to clear the air so you can get on with your new year. Stick to your ouns if you must, but making up is more fun

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec.

21). Let them just try to stop you from painting the town red tonight! You've worked your tail off this year, and nobody knows it better than you. Go ahead — let loose. A night of unrepentant celebration is certainlv well deserved.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.

19). Life is looking pretty darned good from where you're standing. Your social life rocks, and you've got folks at the office wrapped around your little finger. Now, if only you could find the perfect outfit for tonight

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Let someone else be the designated driver. If there's a checkpoint within a 10-mile radius of you, you're likely

to be pulled over. And indicators suggest a butting of heads with authority figures -- yikes! Better safe than sorry

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

You feel as if you're working at cross-purposes with an important woman in your life. In fact, you're not, but it's challenging to see the forest for the trees. This lesson is one you'll be happy you learned before the new year rings in

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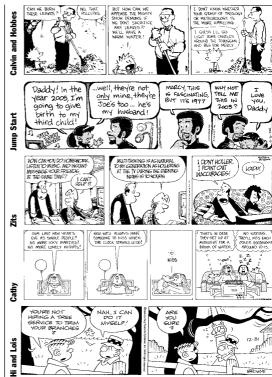
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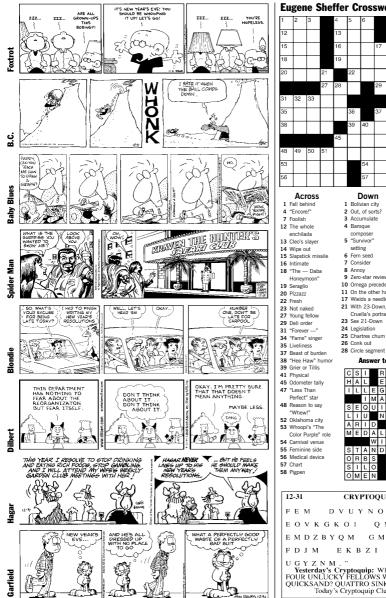












Eugene Sheffer Crossword

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FOUR UNLUCKY FELLOWS WHO HAPPEN UPON QUICKSAND? QUATTRO SINKO!

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals P

104 today and

tomorrow wit no relief in sight

Mother should give child space

Dear Abby: I am 35 and the mother of a 10-year-old daugh-ter, "Savannah," who is in the fourth grade

Savannah claims that I am smothering her. She is not allowed to have sleepovers, and she may not attend any of the co-ed parties her friends throw. No sugar is allowed in our house

unless it is a special occasion like a birthday. Whenever she goes to a friend's house, I call every hour to see how she is doing.

In the kitchen Savan nah is not allowed to use the stove, the oven, the blender, or any other appliance unless I am there to supervise.

Dear Annie: After

numerous e-mails and

sister-in-law, we could

hardly wait for a week's

visit from my brother's

night, however, my rela-

tives were in total shock

behavior of my brother's

Misty walked all over

our furniture, constantly scream

She even hit her parents and her 8-year-old brother. She is the

most unhappy child I have ever

We have a 3-year-old who

plays beautifully with other

children.

ing, hitting, pinching and push-

ing everyone she encountered

family. After the first

after witnessing the

2-year-old daughter, "Misty."

nhone calls with my

My daughter attends an all-girls school because I don't want her exposed to some of the things boys do when they are her age. Savannah is not allowed to wear makeup, and I shop for her. Every morning, before she

leaves home, she must come to me so I can monitor what she is

Abby, I love my daughter very much, and I only want what is best for her. Do you think I am smothering her

— Good Mom in Houston Dear Good Mom: I believe you are a caring parent, but I also think you have gone off the deep end. In the name of being a conscientious parent you have placed your daughter under virtual house arrest. How is your daughter to learn to be independent and make intelligent decisions if you restrict her

Dear Abby: I'm a college

sophomore, and my roommate, "Sal," is driving me crazy. She

I'm not the only person who feels this way. Sal talks down to everyone. She also tries to intimidate us physically. She shoves the guys around, and if the girls annoy her, she stands up as tall as she can, looks down her nose at us and announces, "I can eat you!" At one point, she pinned me to my bed and tried to shove food in my mouth because she didn't believe I ate enough.

The few times we've tried to talk to Sal about this, she became defensive and stormed out, as she snarled that we are all immature and should grow up. We've about had enough. Can you help?

- Living with the Alpha Dog Dear Living: From your de-

scription, the girl has problems beyond what you and I can solve. Counseling could help her, but only if she's willing to face the fact that she needs help.

letters for this column — with your Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at http://www.uexpress.com/deara Universal Press Syndicate

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square to form four ordinary words.

ERRAM GERME

LUSHIM

SUPCAM

DESCRIBED THE HEAT WAVE AS ---Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

THE FORECASTER

12 91

Jumbles: CREEK LYRIC Answer:

UNHOLY BEHEAD What she was left with when her hair came out the wrong color --- A HUE AND A CRY

Family Circus



"Daddy, would you lie down on my bed and warm it up for me?"

Dear Abby

talks down to me when we're in a group. She'll hijack my conversations and answer for me, even though I'm standing right there.

Don't let wild toddler ruin visit

By all means, plan to see your brother next summer, but make reservations at a nearby motel so you can control how much time you spend with Misty

Dear Annie: My birthday falls on New Year's Eve. I got fed up with not being sufficiently recognized, and I now start working my birthday into conversations about six weeks ahead of time. ("Did you know it's only five weeks to Christmas and only six weeks to my birthday?") It has since become an office joke and is never forgotten. I recommend this approach to anyone whose birthday is neglected.

- Born as a Tax Deduction Dear Tax Deduction: A sense of humor (and some persistence) can go a long way. And, oh yes, Happy Birthday.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators ndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd. te 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

What should I do?

Misty was abusive to her cousin, and at no time did her parents discipline her. When Misty was awake, there was a lot of tension When she was asleep, we all had a great time.

I couldn't sit and watch Misty abuse my daughter, so I finally



confronted my brother and his wife. They Annie's Mailbox swore up and down that they had never seen Misty act this way before and she has never had a problem playing with other children. Yet every time Misty screamed. hit or walked on my furniture. I was told repeatedly by her parents that "Misty just needs her space

I'm just so hurt and frustrated that a 2-year-old could ruin a visit. I realize the child is not to blame if her parents have not done their job properly. I do not care to be around Misty or subiect my child to her. But I had such a great time with my broth er, his wife and their son that I'd love to see them again. They want us to visit next summer

- Misty's Hostage Dear Hostage: Toddlers, fortunately, change a great deal over a short time and, by next year, Misty may be much better behaved. Try



"MAYBE WHEN WE GET OLDER, WE CAN STAY UP PAST BEDTIME AN' ACT LIKE KIDS."

Gary

Side





Horoscope

Happy New Yeart Sagittarian influences have us locking into the future as if it is a land to be conquered, an adventure to be commandeered, an impossibility to be made real. Industrious vibes prevail, so roll up your sleeves and get started before criticism and self-doubt have a chance to settle in. This isn't the time to ask how. Just figure it

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (January 1). You are the

New Year's baby who brings optimism and a fresh start to all who dearly need it! You'll reap the rewards of your own generosity by late February. A pet project is embraced by the one who can take it to the next level. Personal satisfaction is so full, you'll want to share with more people. Libra and Pisces are wonderful partners.

ARIES (March 21-April 19).

Last night's misunderstanding could leave you with a tension hangover. You must quickly clear last year's bad-vibe pollution. Forgive others, forgive yourself, and quickly move forward.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There are many interpretations for the information you're getting now — don't automatically assume the worst. You're good enough just as you are, no matter what your third-grade teacher said. Be kind to

that scared kid inside. **GEMINI (May 21-June 21).**Emotions can create mental cacophory that gets in the way of communication, causing you to misinterpret what you hear. If you need an impartial translator, turn to a Taurus or

CANCER (June 22-July 22).

There is plenty of excitement surrounding you, but for once, you feel grounded and secure. Steadfast Saturn supports you in your efforts to achieve something momentous this year. Review your goals, and start planning now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Celebrate the new year with your family. If geographical boundaries keep you apart, pick up the phone and call. Yes, they may drive you crazy, but they know you better than anyone and will always support you with

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).



Instead of being your own worst

critic, why not reverse that energy in the new year and become your own biggest fan? There is nothing you cannot accomplish if you stay positive and hopeful.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Be aware of all that is beautiful and joyous in the world, and refuse to succumb to

negativity. If your old methods of dealing with others are not working, find an open window through which love can enter your life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). With each new year, you shed your old skin and rise up, polished and new. Change is second nature to you. Be aware, however, that some unfinished business has yet to be resolved before you can progress.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). In your case, "old acquaintance" is certainly not forgot — in fact, you'll probably be lunching with him or her today. Share your resolutions, and enlist help in keeping them. Your friend will steer you from potential pittalls.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Maybe your action looks foolish to those who like to play it safe.

ish to those who like to play it safe, but if you don't test the boundaries of what you're really capable of, you'll never know! The results will surprise you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

If you're already in a committed relationship, this is a prime time to focus on your future together. Discuss goals, and review finances. If you're not committed, you could meet a kindred spirit while running a mundane errand.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

Face it — your candle is burnt at both ends! Start the new year by getting plenty of rest. Keep your schedule fairly open and flexible. An unexpected opportunity comes in the form of a Gemini.

Creators Syndicate

Bailey

Peanuts

Libra friend



IT SYMBOLIZES OUR BEST WISHES FOR A WONDERFUL YEAR TO ALL CREATURES...















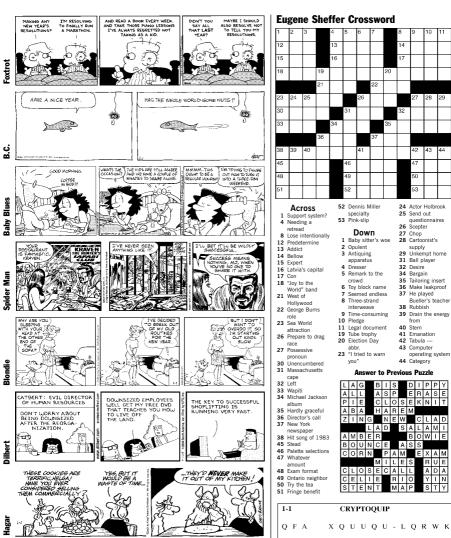












-THAN WITH A CRUEL LAUGH AT YOUR EXPENSE?

YOU DO THAT TO ME EVERY YEAR!

BUT WHAT

X Q U U Q U - L Q R W K AWUKONOUI OOHFA I W N

PUOHGA

UKLWGWIOWGE

NXKWU EQUT Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE AMBIGUOUS AND HUMOROUS NEWSPAPER HEADLINE READS "RED TAPE HOLDS UP NEW BRIDGE."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals R

Starting the New Year positively

Dear Abby: Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the column you printed last New Year's Day. My mother is always cutting out articles for me. The majority end up in the trash. But that one is taped to my bathroom wall. I read it every day on my way out. If I'm having a bad day. I think about it. Please print it again for

Mine is a little tat tered. - Heather in Florida

me and others

Dear Heather: With pleasure. Dear Readers: Rise and shine, and welcome to 2005! This is our

chance for a new beginning, the day we discard destructive old habits for healthy new ones. With that in mind, I'm printing Dear Abby's oft-requested list of New Year's resolutions - adapted by my mother from the original credo of Al-Anon

JUST FOR TODAY. I will live through this day only. I will not brood about yesterday or obsess about tomorrow. I will not set far-reaching goals or try to overcome all my problems at once. I know that I can do something for 24 hours that would overwhelm me if I had

to keep it up for a lifetime

JUST FOR TODAY, I will be happy. I will not dwell on thoughts that depress me. If my mind fills with clouds, I will chase them away and fill it with sunshine

JUST FOR TODAY. I will accept what is. I will face reality. I will correct those things I can cor-

rect and accept those I cannot. JUST FOR TODAY, I will improve my mind. I will read something that requires effort,

thought and concentration. I will not be a mental loafer. JUST FOR TODAY I will

agreeable. I will be kind and courteous to those who cross my path, and I'll not speak ill of others. I'll improve my appearance, speak softly, and not interrupt when someone else is talking. Just for today, I'll refrain from improving anybody but

JUST FOR TODAY, I will do something positive to improve my health. If I'm a smoker, I'll quit. If I'm overweight, I'll eat healthily - if only just for today

myself.

And not only that, I'll get off the couch and take a brisk walk, even if it's only around the

JUST FOR TODAY, I will gather the courage to do what is right and take responsibility for my own actions.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90089. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby Universal Press Syndicate

one letter to each square.

to form four ordinary words.

DYLLA

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FARCS

CADILP

BLOHED

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion Unscramble these four Jumbles,



Now arrange the circled letters to

form the surprise answer, as

suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's

(Answers Monday) Jumbles: REARM MERGE MULISH CAMPUS Answer: The forecaster described the heat wave as -A SUMMER SIMMER

A holiday poem to lighten the mood

Dear Readers:

Happy New Year! A faithful reader sent us this poem, and we hope it will amuse you. We don't know the author, but we enjoyed the sentiment:

The Week After Christ Twas the week after all Christmas, and all through the house Nothing would fit me, not even a blouse

The cookies I'd nibbled, the eggnog I'd taste

At the holiday parties had gone to my waist.

When I got on the scales, there arose such a number! When I walked to the store (less

a walk than a lumber). I'd remember the marvelous meals I'd prepared;

The gravies and sauces and beef nicely rared, The wine and the rum balls, the

bread and the cheese

And the way I'd never said, "No thank you, please.

As I dressed myself in my hushand's old shirt

And prepared once again to do battle with dirt, I said to myself,

Annie's Mailbox

as I only can "You can't spend a

winter disguised as a man!' So - away with the last of the sour cream

dip, Get rid of the fruitevery cracker and chip,

Every last bit of food that I like must be ban-Til all the additional

ounces have vanished I won't have a cookie - not

even a lick I'll want only to chew on a long

celery stick.

I won't have hot biscuits, or corn bread, or pie,

I'll munch on a carrot and quiet-I'm hungry, I'm lonesome, and

life is a bore But isn't that what January is

Unable to giggle, no longer a

Happy New Year to all, and to all a good diet!

Dear Annie: I am a disabled

woman and the blessed

owner/handler of a Service Dog. Brandy goes everywhere with me, and many people ask questions. I usually don't mind answering, but I have some suggestions for your readers: Be polite.

Please ask me if it's OK before attempting to speak to or pet the dog. If I tell you "no," please accept it graciously. My dog is working. While Brandy is trained to ignore you, even a moment's inattention on the dog's part can cause me injury. Please give us the room we need to safely negotiate stairs, elevators, aisles, etc.

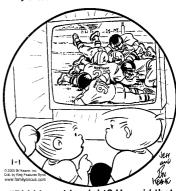
Do not feed the dog. For many of us, our dogs have given us back some measure of normalcy and independence. Things are hard enough without being stared at, whispered about, pointed at and interrogated.

— D.F. and Brandy in New Jersey Dear D.F. and Brandy: Readers, take note.

els, tack-fluie.

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Family Circus



"Did I hear him right? He said that guy coughed up the football!"

WOMEN NO MATTER _HOW NADA 1/1/05

© Gary I

OL' RUFF'S NOT CHASIN' HISTAIL. H



The kegger lasted well into the night, and on the following morning Dale thrust his foot into a nest of cranky, hung over, stimulus-response scorpions.



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Unranked Badgers smother No. 18 Tide, extend streak

MADISON, Wis. - Wisconsin's Alando Tucker missed last year's game against Alabama because of a foot injury.

He made up for it Wednesday

Tucker had 21 points and seven rebounds for the Badgers as they stifled No. 18 Alabama's high-powered offense in a 76-62 victory Wednesday night that extended the nation's longest home winning streak to 36 games.

The game was the Big Ten's best defense — Wisconsin giving up just 56 points a game against the Southeastern Conference's best offense — Alabama averaging better than 86 points.

Crimson Tide (10-2) couldn't recover from a first half that saw the Badgers (9-2) take a 33-23 lead

Alahama scored on seven straight possessions to open the second half and cut the lead to 42-37, but Wisconsin built its lead back to double figures and then held the Crimson Tide scoreless for almost 3 minutes after Ronald Steele's basket had made it 54-46 with 6:18 left Tucker's three-pointer gave the

Badgers a 65-48 lead, their biggest of the game, and Wisconsin cruised from there.

Tucker was one of four Badgers to finish in double figures. Mike Wilkinson hit his first three shots to start the game as Wisconsin never trailed and finished with 15 points. Zach Morley had 13 points and seven rebounds. while Sharif Chambliss scored 11

points.
"If they're trying to key on any one person, we're just going to find the open guy and take good shots," Wilkinson said. "I think that's a big advantage. We have a



bunch of guys that can knock down shots when we need it instead of just one or two go-to

Alabama came in shooting almost 50 percent from the field. but the Crimson Tide made less than one-third of their shots in the first half

No. 8 Kentucky 82, Campbell 50: At Lexington, Ky., freshman center Randolph Morris had a career-high 25 points on 11-for-14 shooting and coach Tubby Smith

won his 200th game at Kentucky Kelenna Azubuike added 14 points for the Wildcats (9-1), who won their fifth straight game.

Anthony Atkinson had 14 points for the Fighting Camels (2-7), who have lost 39 of their last 40 road games.

Smith is 200,53 in eight seasons at Kentucky and 324-115 in 14 seasons overall with the Wildcats, Georgia and Tulsa. He is the fourth coach to win at least 200 games at Kentucky, joining Adolph Rupp, Joe B. Hall and Rick Pitino.

No. 10 Pittsburgh 72, South Carolina 68: Chevon Troutman scored 20 points, including the go-ahead basket with 2:37 remaining, to keep the Panthers unbeat-

Carl Krauser had six free throws in the final minute for Pittsburgh (10-0), which won its 48th straight non-conference home game. Carlos Powell and Josh Gonner

each scored 15 points for the Gamecocks (7-3), who were 2-for-11 from three-point range.

Antonio 82: At Austin, Texas, P.J. Tucker scored 19 of his 21 points in the second half and grabbed 12 rebounds to lead the Longhorns.

The Longhorns (9-2) fell behind 70-66 midway through the second half on David President's lavup. But Tucker then scored six points in an 11-1 run that gave Texas the lead for good. The Longhorns then went on a 14-4 run to put the game away.

The Longhorns tied the school record with 13 blocked shots led by Jason Klotz's seven. Texas outrebounded UTSA 34-29

Justin Harbert led Texas-San Antonio (4-5) with 25 points. He was 10-for-12 from the field, including 5-for-7 on three-pointers, and almost single-handedly kept UTSA within reach.

West Virginia 71, No. 20 George Washington 65: At Mor-gantown, W.Va., Mike Gansey scored 19 points and D'or Fischer added 14 as the Mountaineers improved to 9-0 for the first time in

T.J. Thompson and J.R. Pinnock each had 14 points for the Colonials (8-2), who had theirs winning eight-game snapped and were held below 70 points for the first time this season

No. 23 Michigan St. 92, N.C.-Asheville 63: Paul Davis and Kelvin Torbert led a balanced offense with 15 points each for the host Spartans (8-2), who shot 56.4 nercent from the field and led by as many as 37 points in their only game in a 15-day span.

Omar Collington and Steven Rush each had 14 points for the Bulldogs (3-7), who committed 21 turnovers, 13 on Michigan State

U.S. loses first Juniors game in two years The loss dropped the United 1. advising them about making States to 2-1 in the group that in-

The Associated Press

GRAND FORKS N.D. - The United States was unable to rally from a four-goal deficit and lost 5-3 to Belarus in pool play of the International Ice Hockey Federa tion World Junior Hockey Cham-pionship on Wednesday night, the Americans' first loss in the tournament in two years.

Sports briefs

The defending champion U.S. team had won eight straight games in the tourna-

ment, with its last loss coming against Finland in the bronze medal game two

"I thought they played a great game " II S coach Scott Sandelin said of Belarus. "They took advantage of our mistakes. I thought we had a lot of turnovers tonight

In other games on Wednesday the Czech Republic beat Switzerland 5-2, Finland rallied to defeat Sweden 5-4, and Slovakia defeated Germany 5-0.

cludes Russia (2-1), the Czech Republic (2-1) Switzerland (1-2) and Belarus (1-3). The Americans finish pool play against the Czechs on Thursday.

Phelps sentenced to probation SALISBURY, Md. — Olympic

swimming champion Michael Phelps was sentenced to 18 months' probation Wednesday after pleading guilty to drunken

Judge Lloyd O. Whitehead granted Phelps probation before judgment, meaning his record will be expunged if he follows the terms of probation. Phelps pleaded guilty to driving while impaired, and prosecutors dropped charges of driving under the influence, underage drinking and fail-

The 19-year-old Phelps was fined \$250, must attend a meeting sponsored by Mothers Against Drunk Driving, and must give speeches at three schools by June

ure to stop at a stop sign.

choices and warning them about the dangers of alcohol.

Pacers O'Neal back in court

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - Indiana forward Jermaine O'Neal will go before a federal judge on Thursday to see if he can continue playing for the Pacers. If the ruling goes against him, and O'Neal returns to the suspended list, he said he'll accept it.

Originally suspended by NBA commissioner David Stern for 25 games for fighting with fans dur-ing the Nov. 19 Pacers-Pistons brawl, an arbitrator reduced the ban to 15 games. The NBA then challenged arbitrator Roger Ka-plan's authority to hear O'Neal's grievance, and a federal judge temporarily upheld Kaplan's ruling last week, allowing O'Neal to play

Both sides will be back in court Thursday in New York, where Judge George B. Daniels will consider the merits of the NBA's lawsuit and whether O'Neal will have to serve the remaining 10 games of his suspension.

Silicon Valley Classic At San Jose, Calif.

-5) vs. Minnesota (Sun Bowl At El Paso, Texas A Sun Bowe A Sun Bowe A Sun Bowe Purdue (7-4) Ws. Arizona State (8-3) Liberty Bow At Memphis, Tenn. Boise State (1-2-peach Bowl At Atlanta At Atlanta Miami (8-3) vs. Norda (7-4)

Saturday, Jan. 1 Cotton Bowl At Dallas Payout: \$3 million Tennessee (9-3) vs. Texas A&M (7-4) Outback Bowl

At Tampa, Fla.
Payout: \$2.75 million

Wisconsin (\$23) vs. Georgia (\$12) vs. Texas (\$12) vs. Te

At Tempe, Ariz. Payout: \$11-14 millio Utah (11-0) vs. Pittsburoh (8-3) Monday, Jan. 3 Sugar Bowl At New Orleans At New Orleans

Auburn (12-0) vs. Virginia Tech (10-2)

Tuesday, Jan. 4

Orange Bowl

At Mamilion

Southern Cal (12-0) vs. Oklahoma (12-0)

Wednesday

Colorado 33, Texas-El Paso 28

Colorado 3 10 6 14-33 JTEP 14 7 0 7-28 Col-FG Crosby 26, 8:32. UTEP-Jackson 7 run (Schneider kick), UTEP-Jackson 7 run (Schneider kick), i:05. UTEP—Chamois 1 run (Schneider kick), 1:11. Second Quarter
Col—Charles I run (Crosby kick), 13:31.
Col—FG Crosby 54, 8:16.
UTEP—Boyd 17 pass from Palmer
(Schneider kick), 3:08.
Third Quarter

COI-FG Crosby 37, 9317.
COI-Mopfenstein 78 pass from Klatt (Crosby Mick), 1420.

23 19 44-157 27-34 33 333 22-42-2 24-33-0 22-42-2 3 11 4-50 5-45 0-0 1-1 10-83 4-43 37:09 22:51

A-27,235.

First downs
Rushes-yards
Passing
Comp-Att-Int
Return Yards
Punts-Avg.
Fumbles-Lost
Penalties-Yards
Time of Possess

At San José, Calif.
Payout: \$75,000
Troy (7-4) vs. Northern Illinois (8-3)
Friday, Dec. 31
Music City Bowl
At Nashville, Tenn.
Payout: \$780,000
Alabama (6-5) vs. Minnespta (6-5)

SCOREBOARD

AFN TV & Radio

AFN-Sports and Radio, 2 a.m.-College foot-all: Holiday Bowl, Texas Tech vs. California. AFN-Atlantic, 2 a.m.-College basketbali: 3012aga at Missouri. am-College basketball:

ARN-Sports, 5 a.m.-College football: Silicon
Valley Classic, Northern Illinois vs. Troy,
ARN-Sports, 9 a.m. College basketball:
Sonzaga at Missouri (did).
ARN-Sports, 1 p.m.-

ARN-Sports, 9 a.m.-College basketball: Gonzaga at Missouri (did). ARN-Sports, 1 p.m.-College football: Holi-day Bowl, Texas Tech vs. California. ARN-Sports, 6 p.m.-College football: Music CIV Bowl, Alabama vs. Minnesota. ARN-Pacific, 8 p.m.-College football: Sun Bowl, Artzon St. m.-College football: Sun Gotball: Liberty Bowl, Louisville vs. Boise St.

Saturday

AFN-Sports and Radio, 1:30 a.m.-College football: Peach Bowl, Miami vs. Florida. AFN-Atlantic, 2 a.m.-NBA: Philadelphia at

AFN-Pacific, 2 a.m.-NBA: Sacramento at Jtah. AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.-NBA: Philadelphia at Denver (dld).

APR-Sports, 9 a.m.-NBA: Philadelphia at Correct (dol.) 3 m.-College football: Port-Port (dol.) 3 m.-College football: Out-Port (dol.) 4 m.-College football: Out-APR-Sports, 5 p.m.-College football: Out-APR-Sports, 5 p.m.-College football: Cott-Out, 1 cays, ABV 2 m. Temestage. Out, 1 cays, ABV 2 m. Temestage. Out 1 cays, 1 cays

Sunday

AFN-Sports, midnight-College football: Cot-ton Bowl, Texas A&M vs. Tennessee (dld). AFN-Atlantic, Pacific and Radio, 2:30 am-College football: Flesta Bowl, Utah vs. Pittsburgh. AFN-Sports, 6 a.m.-College basketball: Ha-

APN-Sports, 6 am. College basketball: Ha-will at Neveda. am. College football: foot-ble of the college football: foot-ble of the college football: foot-server, am. College football: foot-server, am. College football: foot-sers am. College football: football: football: foot-sers am. College football: football

All Times Central European Time; did ind cates delayed broadcast. All listings are sub-ject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

Pro football

Detroit at Tennessee Miami at Baltimore Green Bay at Chicago N.Y. Jets at St. Louis

N.Y. Jets at St. Louis
Cleveland at Houston
Minnesota at Washington
Pittsburgh at Buffalo
Pittsburgh at Buffalo
Pittsburgh at Buffalo
San Francisco at New England
Cincinnati at Philadelphia
Atlanta at Seattle
Tampa Bay at Philadelphia
Tampa Bay at Jan Diego
Indianapolis at Denver
Jacksonville at Oakland
Dallas at N.Y. Giants
End Regular Season

NFL injury report

NEW YORK (AP) — The National Football eague injury report, as provided by the

league: Sunday
ATLANTA FALCONS (11-4) AT SEATTLE SEAHAWKS (8-7) — Falcons: QUESTIONABLE: TE
Alge Crumpler (knee); RB T.J. Duckett
(knee); DT Edward Jasper (wrist); QB Michael Vick (left shoulder); CB Jason Webster Gridel UI Edward Jaspie (Wrist), Ug Michael (Groin), Seabhwas SUH: DT Marcus Tubbs (Gride), WR Jerheme Urban (foot): 18 Tracy Withe (Inarstron); DE Grant Wistrom White (Inarstron); DE Grant Wistrom (Inarie); T Walter Jones (ankle); CB Bobby Agror (Fune), PROBABLE: S Michael Boul-vagine (Foot); QB Mott Hasselbeck (right (CHCH)MAT BERGALS (74) A PHILADEL-PHILA EAGLES (11.2)— Dempals: QUIT DT Lang-PHILA EAGLES (11.2)— Dempals: QUIT DT Lang-STANTON (INC.) (INC.) (INC.) (INC.) (INC.) (INC.) (INC.) CHCSIN (INC.) (INC.) (INC.) (INC.) (INC.) (INC.) (INC.) (INC.)

PRIA EARLES (LIV.) – Bengalis CUT: D'Lamps Son Moore (anles) (UET DIVABELES 806-SON MOORE (Anles) (UET DIVABELES 806-SON MOORE (Anles) (UET DIVABELES 806-SON MOORE (UET DIVABELES

CLEVELAND BROWNS (3-12) AT HOUSTON
TEXANS (7-8) — Browns: QUESTIONABLE: S
Chris Crocker (bleane) OP Kally Halz----TEXAS (7-8) — Browns; OUSTIONABLE: ST. Chris Crucker (bloops); QB kelly Holicomb Chris Crucker (bloops); QB kelly Holicomb Chris Crucker (bloops); QB kelly Holicomb Chris Crucker (bloops); QB Warris (bloops); QB Warris (bloops); QB Warris (bloops); QB Kornick (bloops); QB Marris (bloops); QB M

(1905). Wit Tal. Storest Opens, G. Domine and G. Marchard, G. Storest Opens, G. Domine and G. Marchard, G. Storest Opens, G. Domine and G. Garden, G. Bort Harrington (edbow). Thams (OUT) G. Book bed (1904). Stores Opens, G. Lance Schuller, G. Stores, G. Garden, G.

(foot; 5 Bobby Gray (quadrego; DT Tomburnary and the manufacture) of the manufacture of t

RB Reuben Droughns (neck).

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS (P. AT OAK-LAND RAIDERS (5-10) — Jaguars: QUESTION-ABLE: CB Juran Bolden (quadriceg); S Deon Grant (knee); RB Fred Taylor (knee). PROBA-BLE: S Donovin Darius (ankle); QB Byron

Leftwich (concussion); DT Marcus Stroud (knee); CB DeWayne Washington (groin). Raiders: DOBITUL: CB Phillip Buchanon Milliams (ankle); CB Charles Woodson (knee), QUESTIONABLE: LB DeLawrence Grant (knee); DT Warren Sapp (back): LB Trawan Smith (knee). PROBABEL: DE Tyler Braywan Smith (knee).

Grant (Invest) DT Warren Sand (Dack), Et The Country (Invest) DT Warren Sand (Dack), Et The Country (Invest) DT Warren (Invest) Ma ake Remoedto (Carr); Rb Jamai Lewi (ankle); LB Ray Lewis (wrist); CB Deion Sand ers (foot); LB Bart Scott (knee). PROBABLE: C Casey Rabach (thigh); DE Anthony Weave

Casson Raibach (Highl): De Anthrony Weaser

Allewiscon's Universe G-7, Art WASHING
Marker Control of Control of Control

Resident Resident Reside

DE MINE Rucker (foot), PROBABLE: T Travelle Wharton (ankie); (10-5) AT ST. LOUIS RAMS (7-6) — Jets: QUESTIONABLE: DE John Abra-ham (knee). PROBABLE: DB Quincy Carter (Illi-morman (ingel); LB Drew Wahthoos (knee). PROBABLE: TE Cameron Cleeland (concus-sion); DB Broce Stope (Strout); CB Travis Tish-er (knee); RB Joey Goodspeed (shoulder); RB Steven Jackson (knee).

Steven Jackson (knee).

PITTSBURGH STEELERS (14-1) AT BUFFALO
BILLS (9-6) — Steelers: OUT: CB Deshea
Townsend (hand). DOUBTFUL: RB Jerome
Bettis (ankle): LB Clark Haggans (groin).
QUESTIONABLE: LB Kendrell Bell (groin); QB OUESTIONABLE: LB KENDREI (groin); vp Ben Roethlisberger (ribs); RB Duce Staley (hamstring), PROBABLE: WR Plaxico Burress (hamstring); RB Verron Haynes (Knee); DE Brett Kelsel (hamstring); WR Hines Ward (hip), Bills: QUESTIONABLE: RB Travis Henry (ankle); TE Jason Peters (hamstring); G

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS (2-13) AT NEW EN LAND PATRIOTS (13-2) — 49ers: OUT: QE GLAND PATRIOTS (13-2) — 49ers: OUT: QB TIM RAITAY (foot/right foream); LB Jamle Winborn (shoulder), QUESTIONABLE: DT An-thony Adams (knee); WR Brandon Lloyd (foot); DE Corey Smith (knee), PROBABLE: RB Fred Beasley (neck), Patriots: DOUSTFUL; Dexter Reid (shoulder); DE Richard Seymour Fred Beasley (neck). Patriots: DOUBTFUL: S-Dexter Reid (shoulder): DF Richard Seymour (knee). QUESTIONABLE: LB Matt Chatham (hamstring): RB Revin Faulk (knee): CB Ran-dall Gay (arm/flu): WR David Givens (ankle): (thigh): CB T Law (foot): CB Earthwind Mo-reland (abdomen): RB Patrick Pass (knee): CB Asante Samuel (shoulder): S Eugene Wilon (thigh), PROBABLE; OB Tom Brady (right

(floot).

DALIAS COWBOYS (6-9) AT NEW YORK GIANTS (5-10) — Cowboys: OUT: RB Richie
Anderson (neck/IR). Giants: OUT: WM Mark
Jones (hernia): G. Chits Sines (agw/inflamed
Wilson (shoulder/burner). DOUBTFUL: T
Brandon Winey (concussion). QUESTION.
BLE: DT Kenderick Allen (hamstring): DT ABLE: DT Kenderick Alleasylvin SUPES I (MP. Lance Legree (quadrices): LB Raham Treatment (LB Raham). Dr (concussion): WR Willie Ponder (knee): DT Fred Robbins (hamstring): FI Jeremy Shockey (back); WR Jamaar Taylor (quadrice): WR Amani Toomer (hamstring): G Jason Whittle (back). PROBABLE: LB Reggie Torbor (stomach/illness).

Bowl glance

At Shreveport, La.
Payout: \$1.2 million
Iowa State 17 Miami (Ohio) 13

million xas Tech (7-4)

shoulder); OB Jim Miller (right shoulder). TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS (5-10) AT ARIZO NA CARDINALS (5-10) — Buccaneers: QUES TIONABLE: OB Brian Griese (foot). PROBA

TANK MCNAMARA



I'VE PAID FOR NONREPUNDABLE AIR I'VE PAID FOR NONKEFUNDABLE AIK PARE! THIS NONKEFUNDABLE, GOUGE-PRICING HOTEL ROOM! SEVENTY NONKEFUNDABLE DRINK TICKETS TO THE ALUMNI BEFORE:GAME PARTY!

BY INCREASING YOUR LOYALTY
LEVEL FROM PLATHUM TO
DOUBLE-PLATHUM, YOU'LL GET
FIGHTING SANDCRAB BOWL
ASSERMACED FOR NEXT SEASON





AND IT WAS JUST A SMALL & DIFFERENCE IN CONTRIBUTION THAT GOT YOU BUMPED SIR. POPERMENCE IN LOCAL HARD LINES
THAT GOT YOU BUMPED AND
THAT SCORNING TO BE FROME
WAIT CAN
I MOVE CERTAINLY
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ANY DOWNTON SHIP FROM GOME
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OHE DOWN PROBETTER
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THE TOKEN YOU
THE TOKEN YO



BLE: C Sean Mahan (quadriceps). Cardinals: QUT; T Leonard Davis (knee); CB Renaldo Hill (back), QUESTIONABLE: QB John Navarre (right linger). PROBABLE: LB Karlos Dansby (foot); S Adrian Mayes (Shoulder); WR Nate Pols (high); K Neil Rackers (illness); RB Josh Scobey (illness); S Michael Stone

College football

Bowl glance
Tuesday, Nec. 14
New Orleans Bowl
Tuesday, Nec. 14
Tuesday, Nec. 14
Tuesday, Nec. 17
Tuesday, Nec. 18
Tuesday, Ne

9, UAB 40 Monday, Dec. 27
Monday, Dec. 27
MPC Computers Bow
At Boise, Idaho
Payout: \$750,000
cate 37, Vergila 364, of
Motor Class 44, of
Motor Class 44, of
Payout: \$750,000
cut 39, Toledo 10
Tuesday, Dec. 28
Independence Bowl
At Shreveport, La.
Payout: \$1,2 million.

Insight Bowl At Phoenix

Insight Bowl
At Phoenix
Payout: \$750,000
Pegon State 3. Heaves your \$750,000
Pegon State 3. Heaves your \$250,000
Wednesday, Dec. \$250,000
Wednesday, Dec. \$250,000
Wednesday, Dec. \$250,000
Wednesday, Dec. \$250,000
At San Antonio
At San Antonio
Payout \$1.55 million
Ohio State 32,000
Payout \$1.55 million
Ohio State 32,000
At San Antonio
Continental Tire Bowl
Arriotte, MC.
Arriotte

6-5)
Emerald Bowl
At San Francisco
Payout: \$750,000
New Mexico (7-4) vs. Navy (9Holiday Bowl
At San Diego
Payout: \$2 millior
California (10-1) vs. Texas Tec

Penalties-Varidin 10-53 4 225. Time of Penaltin 10-53 4 225. Rushing-Colorado, Purify 22-80, Charles 7-8, University 10-54, University 1 row 3-9, Franci 1-17. No. 24 Ohio State 33, Oklahoma State 7

Oklahoma St. Ohio St. 0 0 0 7-7 13 10 7 3-33

USU-F6 Nigeri 31, 953.
USU-F6 Nigeri 35, 955.
Second Quarter
OSU-Ross 1 run (Nugeri Kick), 10:26.
OSU-F6 Nigeri Tun (Nugeri Kick), 10:26.
OSU-Gins 7 run (Nugeri Kick), 8:13.
OSU-F6 Nigeri 37, 00:44.
OSU-F6 Nigeri 37, 00:44.
OSU-F6 Nigeri 37, 00:44.
A-65,265.

First downs Rushes-yards Passing Comp-Att-Int Return Yards Punts-Avg. Fumbles-Lost 15 30-149 19 42-214 137 190 15-35-1 17-27-0 1 26 7-42 4-42 1-1 1-1 6-45 2-25 25:09 34:51

Ponts-Ava Penalities Varia Time of Possession STATES 225 Time of Possession STATES 245 Statistics Control of Statistics 245 Statistics 245 Statistics Control of Statistics 245 Statistics 245 Statistics Control of Statistics 245 Statist

SEE SCOREBOARD ON PAGE 36

SCOREBOARD, FROM PAGE 35

Hockey

World Junior Championship								
Group A								
Team	GP W D L GF GA Pts							
Russia	3 2 0 1 15 8 4							
United States	3 2 0 1 14 13 4							
Czech Republic	3 2 0 1 13 8 4							
Switzerland	3 1 0 2 11 11 2							
Belarus								
Group B								
x-Canada	3 3 0 0 24 4 6							
Finland	3 2 0 1 9 7 4							
Slovakia	3 2 0 1 10 7 4							
Sweden	3 1 0 2 11 13 2							
Germany	4 0 0 4 1 24 0							

x-advanced to championship rous
Saturday, Dec. 25
At Grand Forks, N.D.
Canada 7. Slovakia 3
United States 5, Russia 4
At Thief River Falls, Minn.
Czech Republic 7, Belarus 25
Finland 4, Germany 1
Sunday, Dec. 26
At Grand Forks, N.D.
Switzerland 5, Belarus 0.

Belarus 5, United States 3
At Thief River Falls, Minn.
Finland 5, Sweden 4
Slovakia 5, Germany 0
Thursday, Dec. 30

Thursday, Dec. 10
Grand Forks, N.D.
Canada vs. Finland
united States, N.D.
Canada vs. Finland
united States, N.D.
Canada vs. Finland
switzerland vs. Fuses and States
Switzerland vs. Fuses and States
Switzerland vs. Fuses
Switzerland vs. Fuses
Switzerland vs. Fuses
Group A fourth-place vs. Group B
fitth-place Thursday, Dec. 30 At Grand Forks, N.D.

Group B winner vs. Quarterfinal 1 winner Broup A winner vs. Quarterfinal 2 winner Monday, Jan. 3 A Grand Forts, M.D. Relegation Group A fifth place vs. Group B fifth place Group A fourth place vs. Group A fourth place vs.

Quarterfinal losers
Tuesday, Jan. 4
At Grand Forks, N.D.
Third Place

Semifinal losers Championship

College basketball

AP Men's Top 25 fared

r.s. mett 3 top 25 tared
Wednesday
1. Illinois (12:0) did not, play. Next: vs.
Northwestern State, Thursday
2. J. Karisas (8:0) did not, play. Next: vs. No. 9
3. Oklahoma State (9:1) did not play. Next:
at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, Monday.
4. North Carolina (10:1) did not play. Next:
vs. Wednesday (10:1) did not play. Next:
vs. Worth Carolina (Ad. Thursday
6. Duke (8:0) did not play. Next: vs. ClemSWed (8:0) did not play. Next: vs. Clem-6. Duke (8-0) did not play. Next* vs. Clem-son, Sunday. (12.) did not play. Next vs. 16. Next (12.) did not play. Next vs. 16. Next (12.) did not play. Next vs. 16. Next (12.) Suph (12.) did not play. Next vs. Next vs. Suph (12.) did not play. Next vs. 10. Pitsburgh (16-9) best Suph (12.) did Not (12.) did not play. Next vs. Quimplace. Thursday. (12.) did not play. Next at Missouri, Thursday. (13.) Washington (10.1) did not play. Next vs. 13. Washington (10.1) did not play. Next vs. Missouri, Thürday, Missouri, Thürday, Missouri, Thürday, Missouri, Californi, Firiya, Did on or jaly, Nest: v. Californi, Firiya, Missouri, Californi, Firiya, Missouri, Californi, Firiya, Missouri, Californi, Californi,

Wednesday's men's scores

Assumption 68, St. Thomas Aqu Bentley 85, Francis Marion 51 Boston College 67, Kent St. 65 Bryant 78, N.J. Tech 39 Clark U. 65, McDaniel 39 Clârk U. 65, McDaniel 39 Lehigh 64, Towson 61 Mass.-Lowell 69, NYCCT 65 N.J. City 22, Staten Island 60 Pittsburgh 77, South Carolina 68 Pobert Morris 74, Duquesne 63 S. Connecticut 75, C.W. Post 72 UMBC 66, Delaware 56 Virginia St. 89, Queens, N.Y. 77 West Virginia 71, George Washington 65 Barry 79, Pace 30 OVTH

Weinworth Teels 80, Flichburg 15, 72 or 6
Sury 79, Faccio 20078
Su

The Common of th

Texas Tech 98, Georgia 51, 52
Carroll, Mont 94, Lethbridge 51
Colo. Christian 96, Colo. Colo. Spring 78
Colo. Christian 96, Colo. Colo. Spring 78
Montana 51, 78, Montana Tech 44
Montana 52, Montana 16, 14
Montana 54, Montana 16, 14
Montana 54, Montana 16, 14
Montana 54, Montana 16, 14
Montana 18, Augustana 50, 37
Montana 18, Augustana 50, 37
Montana 18, Montana 18, Montana 18, 14
Montana

Ashland Amerikest Tournament
Ashland 7.5, Nichroribury 60
Trinity Christian 8.5, Lincoln Memorial 52
Bills Christian 8.5, Lincoln Memorial 52
Charlotte 6., Christian 8.5, Lincoln 8.5, Lincoln

Oneida Bingo & Casino Classic First Round

First Round
Hartford 68, Rider 57
Wis.-Green Bay 72, N. Dakota St. 66
Porreco Cup
First Round
Gannon 92, Lock Haven 36
St. Joseph's, Ind. 81, Sagimav Valley St. 74
Ramada Inn Classic
First Round

Ramada Im Classic
John Carroll St, Adrign 15
Kings, Pa. St, Alfred 75
St, Peter 75
Shamrock Office Solutions Classic
Shamrock Office Solutions Classic
St. Mary's, Call. 75, Murray 51. 62
UC Work GT, Third Place
UC Holiday Invitational
Brown 55, Ch. Charpite Charles
UCF Korling St. Mary 15
UCF 55, Fordham 52
UCF 55, Fordham 52
UCF 55, Fordham 52

AP Women's Top 25 fared

Medinesday.

1. LSU (11-0) did not play, Next: v. 5. Texas State, Thursday.

2. Duke (12-1) beat Rhode Island 89-63. Next: (10-1) beat Montana State 92-47. Next: at Texas A&M, Wednesday, Jan. 5.

4. Texas (7-2) did not play, Next: v. No. 24. Rutgers, Sunday.

5. Stanford (9-2) lost to Oregon 62-58. Next: and the state of t 20. Purdue (7-3) did not play. Next: at Wis-corsin, Thursi'shi; (9-3) lost to Washington Garage (19-1) and Garage (19-1) and Garage 22. Kanass State (7-2) did not play. Next: at Saint Joseph's, Thursday. 23. UCLA (7-3) did not play. Next: vs. Ore-24. Rutgers (7-2) beat No. 8 Tennessee 6-5-51. Next: A No. 4 Texas, Sunday. 25. New Mexico (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. San Francisco. Friday.

Wednesday's women's scores

Allegheny 81, Mount Union 64 American International 64, Lock Haven 52 Bryant 70, N.J. Tech 59 Carnegie-Mellon 75, Otterbein 73 College of N.J. 57, RPI 54 Druke 89, Rhode Island 63 E. Michigan 76, Capicijus 61 Dulee St, Ahode Island 63 , L. Michigan TS, Canalsius 61 , Mars Hill 68, Bluefield St. Honor St. Mark Hill 68, Bluefield St. Honor St. Mark Hill 68, Bluefield St. Honor St. Mark Hill 68, Bluefield St. Honor St. Honor St. Mark Hill 68, Bluefield St. Honor St. Honor Hill 68, Bluefield St. Honor St. Honor St. Honor St. Honor Hill 68, Bluefield St. Honor Hill 68, Bluefield St. Honor Hill 68, Siens 30 , Texas - Pan American 59, Lafayette 51 , W. M. Wedsyes St. Virginia Gill 68, W. M. Wedsyes St. Virginia Gill 69, Wooster 72, John My 18 , Cameron 67, St. Joseph's Ind. 57

Woosfer 7, John by 18
Cameron 67, St. Passil's nd. 57
Carpon-Newman 74, Miles 6 Migo, S.C. 34
Carpon-Newman 74, Miles 6 Miles

Buchenia & Auton 47

Edgewood T. Hythyto 65

Fillidaka 91, Michipan-Bendrom 55

Fillidaka 91, Michipan-Bendrom 56

Fillidaka 91, Michipan-Bendrom 56

Fillidaka 91, Michipan 91,

SOUTHWEST Baylor 92, Montana St. 47 Lake Forest 75, St. Olaf 52 Oklahoma 87, Henderson St. 44 TCU 79, Grambling St. 33 UTEP 67, Arkansas St. 61 FAR WEST Arizona 54, Washington St. 51 California 77, Oregon St. 71 Colorado 77, N. Colorado 58

Concordia, Calif. 56, Whitman 47 E. Washington 70, Denver 54 Gonzaga 66, Utah 60 Idaho 63, Utah 5t. 62 Montana St.-Northern 59, Occide Gonzaga Gu tah 60
Gonzaga Gu tah 60
Hortand St. Horthern 80, Occidental 55
Hortand St. Horthern 81, Occidental 55
Hortand St. Hortand St.

Deraware 67, Alabama 39
Coca Cola Classic
First Round
Coppin St. 70, South Alabama 69
Jackson St. 77, Northwestern St. 64
FIU Sun and Fun Classic
Championship
Fla. International 69, Dayton 44
Third Place
Stone Brook Ch

Fla. Internation Third Place
Stony Brook 70, Brown 54
Heritage Bank Holiday Classic
First Round
Clayton St. 69, Claffin 55
Iowa State Holiday Classic
First Round
Third Full Holiday Classic
First Round

lowa St. 80, E. Illinois 51 Murray St. 73, Mercer 61 Kiwanis-Wildon

Kiwanis-Wittenberg Holic First Round Hanover 80, Buffalo St. 62 Wittenberg 67, Control Hanover 50, Buffal Stock
Hanover 50, Buffal St. Ca
Wittenberg Laby Blaze Hindstonal
Furman 59, Alabam 51, 418
UAB 92, Fremessee 51, 61
UAB 92, Fre

First Round
Seton Hall 59, Campbell 41
South Carolina 70, Coastal Carolina 50
State Farm Classic
First Round
Charlotte 78, Florida A&M 49
Florida 66, Boston U. 59
Terrapin Classic
First Round

First Round
Marshall 71, Elon 43
Maryland 67, Massachusetts 63
Tulane Doubletree Classic
Championship
Tulane 62, Pepperdine 49
Third Place
Stephen F.Austin 61, Georgia St. 56

Deals

Wednesday's transactions

BASEBALL American League
NEW YORK YANKEES—Agreed to to
with RHP Jaret Wright on a three-year
tract.

with Mary Jaret Wright on a three-year conCINCINNATI REDS-Agreed to terms with
W Lius Lopez and C Bobby Estatella on
Hindri Register C BASKETBALL

BASKETBALL

BASKETBALL

BASKETBALL

BASKETBALL

BASKETBALL

ACTIVATED BORCATS-Activated C Jahid
William C C Jahid
Willi

o the team.

FOOTBALL
National Football League
CINCINNATI BENGALS—Placed RB Chris
erry on injured reserve. Signed WR Matherry from Jacksonville's gractice squad,
GREEN BAY PACKERS—Signed WR Mike
Aarker and CB Art Smith to the practice HOUSTON TEXANS—Signed FB Josh Rue to

HOUSTON TEXAND—JUJUEU TO ACM.
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS—Placed LB Jim Nelson on injured reserve. Signed QB Travis
Brown from the practice squad. Signed LB
Andre Sommersell to the practice squad.
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS—Re-Signed S
JeRod Cherry. Announced S Omare Lowe
cleared waivers and was re-signed to the
expelies equal. cleared walvers and was resuppose practice squad.
PMILADELPHIA SEALES—Placed RB Thomas Tapeh on injured reserve. Signed RB Eric McCoo from the practice squad. Signed RS SAAN FRANCISCO 49EBS—Signed WR P.J. Fleck from the practice squad. Signed RB Van Simonitor to the practice squad.

Fleck from the practice squad. Signed RB Ken Simonton to the practice squad WASHINGTON REDSKINS -Placed RB Clinton Portis, LB LaVar Arrington and CB Ade Jimón on injured reserve. Released TE Dan Godspeed. Signed DE Melvin Williams and TE Kori Dickerson. Signed RB Dahrran Diedrick and CB Rufus Brown from the practice squad.

COLLEGE med Alex Kahoe and Reid DELAWARE—Named Alex Kahoe and Vatson women's assistant lacrosse co

To a continuous assistant facrosse coach
"GUILFORD—Announced the resignation of
Mike Ketchum, football coach, to become an
assistant athletic director.

JACKSONYLLE—Dismissed junior C Joey
Robinson from the men's basketball team
for violating team policy.

NIAGARA—Named Kevin Miller golf coach.

SAN JOSE STATE—Named Dick Tomey football coach. SYRACUSE-Fired Paul Pasqualoni, foot-

St. Louis **OL Turley** confronts coach Martz

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS - St. Louis Rams offensive tackle Kyle Turley, upset about a remark that the team hadn't seen him since he reinjured his back in training camp. engaged in a recent shouting match with coach Mike Martz. Turley said in a statement

Wednesday that there was a "heated, unfortunately profane exchange" on Dec. 13. During the exchange in Martz's office, he said the coach told him he had come to St. Louis "just to take the money and run.

"I left his office and met with the GM to reconfirm my commitment to the team and my return to it at the earliest possible time," Turley said. "I am determined to return to the football field and contribute to the St. Louis Rams' winning season in 2005, joining the teammates I respect and the organization I admire."

Turley has had little contact with the team since going on injured reserve in early August. Martz has said he had no success contacting Turley after the player left the team early in training camp to visit specialists about his hack

On Wednesday, Martz called the flare-up with Turley in his of-fice "a nothing deal." He wouldn't comment on Turley's allegation that he had filed a complaint with NFL security that Turley threatened him.

"Martz contacted league security and falsely claimed I had threatened his life." Turley said. "I was thoroughly interviewed by

league staff with regard to his haseless allegation." NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said league rules bar him from

discussing the matter, saying "conversations between the clubs and NFL security are confiden-Turley could be subject to a

fine over the matter. "He came in and basically was

concerned with a remark I made concerned with a remark I made when I was asked on TV, Where's Kyle?' and I said 'I haven't seen him, I don't know,'" Martz said. "He came in out of the blue, and it was pretty animat-

"He's a very emotional guy and we had a discussion about it Martz said that by the end of

the discussion, which included details of Turley's offseason conditioning plans, the offensive tackle had calmed down. But he didn't say the two left on good terms.
"We came to an agreement,"

Martz said.

NFL injury update

Injuries to prominent NFL players, fol-lowed by team's prognosis. (See Page 34 or complete injury report provided by lowed by team's prognosis, (See Page 34 for complete injury report provided by the league):

Falcons: QB Michael Vick (left shoulder) practiced Wednesday and is expected to start Sunday at Seattle.

Jaguars: QB Byron Leftwich (concussion) is probable for Sunday's game at Oakland. RB Fred Taylor (knee) is questionable.

tionable.

Buccaneers: QB Brian Griese (sprained foot) is questionable for Sunday's game vs. Arizona.

Amid turbulence, Ohio State blows out Oklahoma State

BY T.A. BADGER

SAN ANTONIO — Justin Zwick hardly looked like a quarterback who had been on the bench for more than two months.

Zwick replaced suspended starter Troy Smith and threw for 189 yards and a touchdown in his first action for Ohio State since Oct. 16, and Ted Gim Jr. and Lydell Ross each scored Wednesday night as the 24th-ranked Buckeyes defeated Oklahoma State 33-7 to win the Alamo Row!

"Justin did an excellent job and did what was asked of him," Ohio State coach Jim Tressel said. "I told someone that Justin was playing as best as he's ever played."

Zwick, who lost the starting job to fellow sophomore Smith after the sixth game of the season, completed 17 of 27 passes despite a mild hamstring pull.

passes despite a finiti namstring puin.

The Buckeyes went 3-3 under Zwick before he injured a shoulder in a loss to Iowa. Smith stepped in and led Ohio State (8-4) to victories in four of its last five regular-season games.

But Smith was suspended for the Alamo Bowl by the team last week after university officials said he accepted an unspecified gift from a team booster a violation of NCAA rules.

Tressel declined to talk about what's next for the football program, which has been marred this season by a series of arrests and allegations by former star player Maurice Clarett that players routinely took cash gifts from boosters. "I'm happy for the team and excited for the future." Tressel said.

Ginn, a freshman with dazzling speed, caught six passes for 78 yards and rushed for 40 yards and a touchdown. Ross rushed for 99 yards on 12 carries, and Mike Nugent kicked four field goals to become Ohio State's career scoring

leader.

Ohio State took advantage of two early

turnovers, then stifled the Cowboys (7-5). Oklahoma State quarterback Donovan Woods completed 15 of 34 passes for 137 yards and rushed for 80 yards. Vernand Morency, who entered the game eight in Division I-A rushing with 1,474 yards, was limited to 24 yards on eight carries.

on legin carries.

On the first series, Woods underthrew receiver Chijuan Mack and the pass was picked off by linebacker Bobby Carpenter. Three plays later, Zwick hit a diving Anthony Gonzalez with a 23-yard touch-

down pass.

After a 37-yard field goal by Nugent,
the Cowboys were driving when Woods
lost his grip on the ball near midfield
while trying to run up the middle. Defensive lineman Joel Penton recovered and
Nugent capped the drive with a 35-yard
field goal to give Ohio State a 13-0 lead
with nearly six minutes to go in the first

"We could not move the football or protect our passer effectively," Cowboys coach Les Miles said. "It was difficult for [Woods] to throw."



Ohio State freshman Ted Ginn had 78 yards receiving, 40 yards rushing and one touchdown to lead Ohio State's 33-7 victory on Wednesday night.

In the second, with the Buckeyes at midfield, Zwick threw a screen pass to Ginn on the left side and the Cowboys cornered him for what looked like a modest gain.

But Ginn eluded three defenders and broke back to the right sideline for a 42-yard pickup to Oklahoma State's 9. Ross capped the 78-yard drive by scoring from the 1 and making it 20-0.

"I try to make something out of nothing if I get trapped," Ginn said. "You've always got to keep your feet moving. You're always moving forward — that's what we've been taught."

When Nugent made the extra point following Ross' touchdown, he passed Pete Johnson as the Buckeyes' career scoring leader with 356 points.

Klatt rallies Buffs

BY JOEL ANDERSON
The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Joel Klatt threw for 333 yards and two touchdowns and Mason Crosby kicked four field goals, leading Colorado to a 33-28 victory over Texas-El Paso in the Houston Bowl on Wednesday.

Klatt keyed a fourth-quarter comeback by the plodding Buffalos (8-5), who tried to keep pace with UTEP, which is ranked eighth in the nation in scoring offense. Colorado led 3-0 midway through the first quarter and trailed until seizing the lead late in the game.

Facing fourth and 3 at its own 35, Colorado used a bit of trickery. Punter John Torp raced 22 yards around the left end on a fake punt for the first down. Two plays later, Klatt threw a 39-yard touchdown pass to a wide-open Evan Judge for the go-ahead score with 8:43 left.

Klatt was flattened by UTEP defensive end Ibok Ibok as he released the ball and didn't realize what happened until teammates helped him off the turf. "I couldn't tell you happened," Klatt said. "The linemen told me [about the score] when they picked me up."

Klatt completed 24 of 33 passes, five to Joel Klopfenstein for 134 yards. Bobby Purify rushed 80 yards on 22 carries.

Colorado's first bowl victory since the 1999 Insight.com Bowl capped an improbable turnaround for the Buffaloes, who went through an offseason of scandal and turmoil.

Gary Barnett's program was the target of sexual assault claims dating to 1997, followed by an investigation that discovered sex, alcohol and drugs were used as recruiting tools, although there was no evidence that university officials sanctioned it. Then, Barnett was put on timee months of administration of the second of t

Jordan Palmer, the younger brother of former Heisman winner Carson Palmer of Southern Cal, completed his first eight passes for 120 yards as UTEP (8-4) raced out to an early 14-3 lead.



James elbowed out of Radan Control **Cavs' loss to Rockets**

CLEVELAND - One night before his 20th birthday, LeBron James did not feel like partying

Cleveland's star forward didn't play in the second half on Wednesday night after bruising a bone near his left eve when he was accidentally struck in the face by Houston's Dikembe Mutombo late in the first half.

The Rockets went on to win 98-87, led by 34 points from Tracy McGrady and 20 from Yao

James was moving across the lane when he was accidentally leveled by Mutombo, whose elbows have hit more than a few NBA players over the years.

"I warned him before the game to watch out," said Cleveland guard Eric Snow, who played with Mutombo in Philadelphia. "I've seen him take out teammates and opponents. Those things are dangerous.'

James, who was taken to the Cleveland Clinic for X-rays and a CT scan, fractured his left cheekbone and sustained a mild concussion. He wasn't available for comment after returning from the hos-

James will wear a mask to protect a broken bone in his face, but Cavaliers coach Paul Silas said Thursday he hopes the reigning NBA Rookie of the Year won't miss any games.

"I never saw him," Mutombo said. "The next thing I know, boom, he was laying on the floor. I hope it's not too bad

McGrady scored 22 points in the second half and 12 in the fourth quarter to help Houston snap a five-game road losing

Pistons 107, Wizards 105: At Washington, Chauncev Billups hit a 14-foot jumper with 0.7 seconds left to give Detroit a

come-from-behind victory. The Pistons overcame a 19-point first-half deficit and trailed by 15 in the third quarter. Billups scored 10 of his season-high 32 points in the final five

minutes, and Rasheed Wallace had 12 of his 23 in the final quar-Gilbert Arenas scored 34

points, and Larry Hughes had 30 to go with seven assists and six steals for the Wizards.

Pacers 74, Bobcats 71: At Charlotte, N.C., Jermaine O'Neal had 24 points and 17 rebounds and Indiana won back-to-back games for the second time this



In the three games he's played since an arbitrator reduced his 25-game suspension to 15, O'Neal has 61 points and 35 rebounds. He was to go before a federal judge Thursday in New York to learn if he can continue to play or if he must sit out the final 10 games of the suspension for his part in the Pacers-Pistons brawl last month

Emeka Okafor had his 17th consecutive double-double with 16 points and 15 rebounds for Char-

Suns 107, Hornets 96: At New Orleans, the NBA's worst team put a scare into the league's best. The Hornets (2-26) pulled within 98-93 with 56 seconds to go, but Quentin Richardson an swered for Phoenix with his team-record ninth three-pointer.

Richardson finished with 31 points and 11 rebounds, and Steve Nash had 22 points and assists as the Suns improved to 25-4.

J.R. Smith scored a career-high 23 points for New Orleans.

Bucks 111, Magic 105: At Or-lando, Fla., Michael Redd scored 29 points and Dan Gadzuric had 15 points and a career-high 14 rebounds for Milwaukee, which had only 11 players in uniform because of injuries.

Steve Francis had 24 points, 12 rebounds and nine assists for Orlando. Grant Hill added 26 points for the Magic.

Knicks 100, Timberwolves 87: At New York, Stephon Marhury took over down the stretch and finished with 32 points and 11 assists for the Knicks.

Marbury scored 15 points in the final quarter, including all of the Knicks' points during a 9-2 run that gave New York a 94-85 lead with 1:46 to go.

Kurt Thomas limited Kevin Garnett to 17 — more than six below his average. Latrell Sprewell added 22 points and Sam Cassell 20 for Minnesota.

Grizzlies 117. Celtics 109: At Memphis, Tenn., Pau Gasol had 24 points and 11 rebounds, and Memphis rallied in the final peri-

After trailing most of the game, the Grizzlies went on an 18-3 run to begin the fourth quarter and take a 101-97 lead. Memphis also got 18 points from Bonzi Wells.

The Celtics were led by Raef LaFrentz with 28 points.

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division						
w York iladelphia ston w Jersey ronto	16 13 12 10	13 14 16 17 21	Pct .552 .481 .429 .370 .323	GB 2 3½ 5		
Southeast Division						
ami lando ishington arlotte anta Central	23 15 15 7 5	7 12 12 18 22	.767 .556 .556 .280 .185	6½ 6½ 13½ 16½		
veland	17	12	.586	-		
troit	15	12	.556	1		
liana Iwaukee Icano	14	13 16	.519 .360	6 6		

Western Conference



Solden State

Wednesday's games

Houston 98, Cleveland 87

Detroit 107, Washington 105

Milwaukee 111, Orlando 105

Indiana 74, Charlotte 71

New York 100, Minesota 87

Memphis 117, Boston 109

Phoenix 107, New Orleans 96

LA. Clippers 101, Utah 90

Golden State 111, Toronto 105

Thursday's games

Seattle at Atlanta Indiana at New Jersey Indiana at New Miami at Detroit
San Antonio at Portland
Friday's games Washington at Bost

Seattle at Charlotte
Sacramento at Utah
Philadelphia at Denver
San Antonio at L.A. Clippers
Milwaukee at Houston
Saturday's games
Charlotte at Miami w Jersey at New York

Portland at Proemx Utah at Houston Milwaukee at Dallas San Antonio at Sacramento Denver at L.A. Lakers

Wednesday Rockets 98, Cavaliers 87

HOUSTON — McGrady 13-31 5-6 34, Howard 7-9 3-3 17, Yao 8-16 4-8 20, Sura 1-3 0-0 3, Barry 2-51-2 7, Mutombo 3-61-2 7, Tay-lor 4-9 0-0 8, Wesley 1-5 0-0 2. Totals 39-84

lor 4-9 0-0 o, no., 1 4-21 98. CLEVELAND — James 0-5 3-5 3, Gooden 8-15 5-5 21, Ilgauskas 7-19 3-6 17, McInnis 4-11 0-0 10, Newble 4-9 6-6 14, Varejao 3-4 4-8 10, Traylor 0-7 0-0 0, Snow 1-4 0-0 3, Harris 2-3

0-2). Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Houston 48 (Mutombo 9), Cleveland 62 (Gooden 12). Assists—Houston 24 (Sura 12), Cleveland 22 (McInnis 10). Total fouls—Houston 24, Cleve-land 17. Technicals—Houston Defensive Three Second 2. A—20,562 (20,562).

Pistons 107. Wizards 105

tals 40-82 18-20 105.

Detroit 23 19 32 33-107

Washington Three-Point Goals-Detroit 8-11 (Billups 6-8, R.Wallace 1-1, Hunter 1-1, Prince 0-1), Washington 7-19 (Arenas 5-9, Hughes 1-4, Hayes 1-4, Blake 0-1, Jamison 0-3). Fouled

out—None. Rebounds—Detroit 49 (B.Wallace 14), Washington 41 (Ruffin 9). Assists—De-troit 20 (Billups 6), Washington 18 (Hughes 7). Total fouls—Detroit 20, Washington 24. Technical—Jamison. A—20,173 (20,674).

Bucks 111. Magic 105

MILWAUKEE — Mason 7-14 7-8 21, Pa-chulia 3-9 3-6 9, Gadzuric 6-9 3-4 15, Redd 12-19 4-4 29, M.Williams 6-11 4-4 16, Fizer 2-5

Three-Point Goals—Milwaukee 2-6 (Redd 1-1, James 1-4, Pachulia 0-1), Orlando 4-15 (Mobley 3-6, Turkoglu 1-3, Francis 0-1, Nel-son 0-2, Garrity 0-3). Fouled out—M-Will-14), Orlando 35, Francis 12, Nel-side 14, Orlando 35, Francis 12, Nelssits—Milwau-kee 22 (Pachulia 6), Orlando 21 (Francis 9). Total fouls—Milwaukee 25, Orlando 24, Tech-nicals—Pachulia, Fizer, Battle. A—14,438 (17,248).

Knicks 100, Timberwolves 87 MINNESOTA — Garnett 7-17 3-4 17, Szczer iak 5-11 1-1 11, Olowokandi 1-3 0-0 2, Cas

MINNESOTA — Settrescore 1.3 of 2, ca blak 5-11 1-1 11, Olowokandi 1-3 0-0 2, ca sell 7-17 4-4 20, Sprewell 9-23 3-3 22, Johnso 0-0 2-2 2, Carter 0-2 0-0 0, Holberg 2-4 0-0 Griffin 1-4 0-0 2, Hassell 3-6 1-1 7, Madsen 0 self 7:17 44 20, Sprewell 9:23 3-322, Johnson 07-22, Carter 0-2-0 9, 00, Holly 7:4-0-4, Griffin 1-4-0-2, Hassell 3-6-1:7, Madsen 07-4, Hassell 3-6-1:7, Madsen 07-4, Hassell 3-6-1:7, Madsen 07-4, Hassell 3-6-1:7, Madsen 07-4, Hassell 3-6-1:7, Ha

Three-Point Goals—Minnesota 3-13 (Cassell 2-3, Sprewell 1-5, Scarreth 0-1, Sczzerbiak 0-1, Holberg 0-1, Griffin 0-2), New York 4-9 (T.Thomas 2-2, Marbury 1-3, Houston 1-4), Fouled out—None, Rebounds—Minnesota 48 (Garnett 13), New York 41 (Mohammed 9), Ac Garnett 13), New York 41 (Mohammed 9), Ac William (Mohammed 9), New York 14, Technicals—Minnesota 19, New York 14, New York 14, Technicals—Minnesota 19, New Yo

Suns 107, Hornets 96

PHOENIX — Richardson 11-23 0-0 31, Mari-n 2-12 5-6 9, Stoudemire 6-12 3-4 15, Nash -11 4-4 22, Johnson 6-16 0-0 12, Jacobsen 1-3 -03, Hunter 4-52-3 10, Outlaw 1-2 1-3 3, Bar-osa 1-4 0-0 2. Totals 40-88 15-20 107. bosa 1-4 0-0 2. Totals 40-88 15-20 107. **NEW ORLEANS** — Nailon 6-14 0-0 12. Freije 0-2-0-0 0, Brown 7-11 4-4 18, Dickau 3-10 1-2 8, Smith 10-15 0-0 23, Davis 6-17 2-2 18, Anders-en 4-6 0-0 8, Nachbar 2-6 2-2 7, Edwards 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 39-83 9-10 96.

Grizzlies 117. Celtics 109

BOSTON — Welsch 4-9 0-0 9, LaFrentz 10-15 6-7 28, Blount 3-7 4-6 10, Payton 2-8 0-0 1, Pierce 6-14 6-9 18, Banks 1-3 8-9 10, Jeffer-50 3-5 2-2 8, Davis 1-5 2-2 4, McCarty 7-9 0-0 8, Perkins 0-0 0-0 0, Reed 0-0 0-0 0. Totals

18, Perkins 0-0 0-0 0, Reed 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 37-7528-55 D-9 osey 2-6 2-2 8, Gasol 6-13 21-1324, Wright 3-6 3-49, Williams 3-12 2-29, Miller 47 1-2 12, Battler 2-6 4-6 10, Watson 3-3 4-4 11, Wells 8-13 0-1 0, Swift 5-9 0-1 10, Jones 0-0 2-2 2, Humphrey 2-4 0-0 4. Totals 3-79 30-30 1-3

38 27 29 15-109 29 27 27 34-117 11-24 (Miller 3-5, Battler 2-3, Wells 2-3, Posey 2-6, Watson 1-1, Williams 1-6), Fouled out-None, Rebounds-Boston 47 (Blount 9), Memphis 45 (Gasol 11), Assists-Boston 24 (Pierce, Payton 7), Memphis 26 (Posey 7). Total fouls-Boston 30, Memphis 28. Techni-cal-Memphis Defensive Three Second. _18 110 (18 110

Pacers 74, Bobcats 71

Three-Point Goals—Indiana 3-12 (Johnson 2-2, Tinsley 1-3, Croshere 0-1, Miller 0-3, F.Jones 0-3), Charlotte 3-10 (Rush 2-4, S.Smith 1-2, Bogans 0-1, Hart 0-1, Kapono 0-1, Wallace 0-1). Fouled out—None. Rebound s—Indiana 52 (O'Neal 17), Charlotte 59 (Okafor 15), Assists—Indiana 20 (Tinsley 7), Char-lotte 24 (Hart 11), Total fouls—Indiana 22, Charlotte 16, Technical—Indiana Defensive Three Second. A—13,483 (23,319).

Warriors 111, Raptors 105

TORONTO — Bosh 4-9 4-5 12, E.Williams 1-3 0-0 2, Araujo 4-5 5-6 13, Peterson 5-11 0-01 12, Alston 7-13 0-0 16, Rose 9-15 3-5 23, Mar-shall 5-10 0-0 13, Murray 2-9 2-2 6, Bonner 2-5 0-0 4, Palacio 1-3 2-2 4, Aa.Williams 0-0 0-0 Totals 40-83 16-20 105. GOLDEN STATE — Murphy 5-13 6-6 17, Dunleavy 10-15 5-6 29, Robinson 4-8 0-0 11, JRichardson 12-19-91-23, Srisher 6-14-4 4.Ti

J.Richardson 12-19 9-12 35, Fisher 6-14 4-4 17, Pietrus 0-4 0-0 0, Foyle 0-2 0-0 0, Najera 0-4 0-0 0, Cheaney 1-2 0-0 2, Sesay 0-2 0-0 0. To-tals 38-83 24-28 111.

Golden State 25 29 23 33-111
Three-Point Gals-Toronto-26 (Marshall
3-7, Rose 2-3, Peterson 2-4, Alston 2-6, Bonner 0-2, Murray 0-4), Golden State 11-22 (Dunde 0-2, Murray 1-4), Golden State 11-22 (Dundul-Marshall 1-2), Folden 1-2, Folden 1-2, Folden
12), Golden State 47 (Murphy 11), Assists—
Toronto 25 (Alston 9), Golden State 24 (Fisher 9), Total fouis—Toronto 30, Golden State 24 (Fisher 9), Total fouis—Toronto 30, Golden State 24 (Fisher 9), Folden State 24 (Fisher er 9). T 22. T

Clippers 101, Jazz 90

UTAH — Harpring 4-12 2-2 10, Boozer 9-15 5-7 23, Radojevic 0-1 0-00, Snyder 4-11 2-4 11, McLeod 2-4 0-0 4, Lopez 3-4 0-08, Okur 2-8 2-2 6, Borchardt 3-4 2-2 8, Humphrise 0-1 0-0 0, Giricek 5-10 2-2 12, Arroyo 2-8 4-5 8. Totals 34-78 19-24 90. L.A. CLIPPERS — Simmons 8-16 5-6 22, Brand 9-15 5-8 23, Kaman 2-3 0-0 4, Maggette

Brand 9-15 5-8 23, Kaman 2-3 0-0 4, Maggette 6-15 10-11 22, Brunson 3-8 0-0 7, Chalmers 2-5 0-0 5, Wilcox 2-3 1-2 5, Moore 1-3 0-0 2, Ross 0-0 1-4 1, Rebraca 3-5 4-4 10, Penney 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 36-74 26-35 101.

Totals 36-74 80-50.00.

**Totals 36-74 80-50 Leaders

Through Dec. 29 Scoring



Stoudemire, Phoe. Blount, Bos. Mohammed, N.Y. Mihm, LAL Nash, Phoe. Boozer, Utah Wilcox, LAC Yao, Hou. Gooden, Clev.

Garnett Minn Garnett, Minn. Duncan, S.A. Okafor, Char. Marion, Phoe. O'Neal, Mia. Randolph, Port. Odom, LAL

115 192 156 220 372 303

Murphy, G.S. Gooden, Clev. Nowitzki, Dall

Cooper drills Nuggets on hard work, defense during first practice as coach The Associated Press Most of the discussion will rechise has ever been. Bodies were flying - at one

DENVER - Michael Cooper

began his first day as coach of the Denver Nuggets with a team meeting, giving each player a frank assessment of his role now that Cooper is running the show. Then he took his players onto

the practice court to work on de-

If Day 1 is any indication, the Nuggets can expect a lot of unflinching honesty and demand for hard work — especially on de-fense — from their new coach. They can also expect him to

push them to be more than just a little above average, which is pretty much the best the Nuggets fran"As Pat Riley once said, 'If you

don't talk about being a champion, you'll never be a champion, said the former Los Angeles Lakers star, who won five NBA titles, four with Riley as his coach. Cooper also coached the Los Angeles Sparks of the WNBA to two chamvolve around defense, just as most of Denver's first practice did Wednesday. At the end, with Cooper kneel-

ing on one knee, the Nuggets went through the "Shell Drill," a contest in which points came easier by making stops on defense than making baskets on offense.

point, Bryon Russell, Marcus Camby and Andre Miller all went down in a heap. Earlier in the workout, guard Greg Buckner left with a groin strain. "The first practice was short,

but it was competitive." Carmelo Anthony said. "It was hard and to the noint

Consistent performance merits another AP honor for Sorenstam

BY JIM LITKE The Associated Press

She won early and often, and often by overwhelming margins. She won on four continents — in Australia, Sweden and Japan and in six of the 50 United States. She won a major, the most money and a remarkable 10 times in just 20 starts worldwide.

Small wonder then, that what was an average year for golfer Annika Sorenstam was more than good enough to earn her recognition as The Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year for the second year running.

Sorenstam received 40 first-place votes and 263 total points.

Diana Taurasi, who led Connecticut to the NCAA women's basketball title and then captured the WNBA's Rookie of the Year award, finished second. She had 15 first-place votes and 154 points, two more than Russian teen tennis sensation Maria Sharapova.

Consistency has been the hallmark of Sorenstam's 11-year career in pro golf. Her performance this season wasn't nearly as eventful as 2003, when she won two majors and 11 times on the LPGA Tour, became the first woman since 1945 to play on the PGA Tour, did a star turn on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" and entered the Hall of Fame. But in-credibly, it was every bit as efficient.

Sorenstam began it with a win in the ANZ Ladies Masters on Australia's Gold Coast, making up a four-stroke deficit at the midway point by closing with a pair of scintillating 65s. She ended it by edging Cristie Kerr in a play-



Mondays in Stars and Stripes



Annika Sorenstam won 10 times in just 20 starts worldwide this year, earning her second straight Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year award.

off in the ADT Championship, the final tournament on the LPGA calendar, with her only victory that didn't come by multiple shots.

In between, Sorenstam wrote a book, lifted her profile as an endorser and mixed it up with the boys a second time in the Skins Game. She also stayed comfortably atop the world rankings, locked up a fourth consecutive LPGA money title— her seventh in the last 10 years— tied her and the stay of the seventh of the seventh

"Naturally, I'm pleased with my season in many different ways," Sorenstam said, "and especially because I've played less tournaments and still won so much."

Most important, perhaps, the 34-year-old Swede proved again that she has to be included in any argument about the most dominant golfer — male or female — of this era. Over the last four seasons, Sorenstam has separated herself from her competition even more than either Tiger Woods or Vijay Singh, boosting her total LPGA wins to 56 and climbing within striking distance of the record 88 recorded by Kathy Whitworth in a 22-year ca-Kathy Whitworth in a 22-year ca-

"I'm still so far away from it but I've come so far ahead of what I ever thought I would," Sorenstam said earlier this year. "I always said I would continue to play this game while I enjoy it and feel motivated. I just wonder if I can continue on this pace."

But no one should be surprised if she does.

Golfing great Nancy Lopez saw something special in Sorenstam not long after she joined the pro circuit. "There's a calmness about her you don't normally see in young players," Lopez said at the time, and that's still evident watching Sorenstam play now, striding purposefully down the fairway in wraparound sunglass-

But then, as now, the cool, confident exterior masks a competitive desire that burns every bit as brightly as it has in any of the game's greats.

Soon after Australian Karpie Webb knocked Sorenstam off the throne of women's golf at the end of the 2000 season, the Swede re-dedicated herself to the sport with an intensity few believed she possessed. Sorenstam spent the next six weeks practicing nothing but putting and began as the season of the season of

After a 2002 season that ranked as the most successful by any golfer in four decades, the same impulse drove her to accept a sponsor's invitation to play against the men at the Colonial the following year. Sorenstam missed the cut there, but played in front of crowds nearly four times larger than she routinely encounters on the LPGA Tour. She put her game and her personality under that microscope to learn more about her weaknesses than strengths, and those lessons have been paying dividends ever since.

In this year's ADT Championship, Sorenstam missed a 12-foot bride put to the final hole of regulation to win the tournament outright, then had to cobble together a bogey on the first extra hole for the victory. She didn't win any style points, but the display of grit was as good a way as any to wrap up another spectacular season.

"You're a champion whether you make a bogey or a birdie," Sorenstam said.

"That's the way I look at it."



Lance Armstrong was voted The Associated Press Male Athlete of the Year for the third straight time after winning his sixth Tour de France.

Armstrong caps 'special year' with third AP award

BY JIM VERTUNO

AUSTIN, Texas — Even by his lofty standards, Lance Armstrong's return to the mountaintop in 2004 was pretty special.

The question now facing Armstrong is whether he'll return to challenge the Pyrenees and the French Alps again in 2005.

Already recognized as one of the truly inspiring athletes of his generation, Armstrong took his cycling legacy a step further when he won a record-breaking sixth consecutive Tour de France in July.

And for his accomplishment, he was honored Monday as The Associated Press Male Athlete of the Year for the third straight year. Armstrong joined Michael Jor-

Armstrong joined Michael Jordan (1991-93) as the only athletes selected by sports writers and broadcasters three straight times since the honor was first awarded

"For me it was a special year,"
Armstrong said. "It's always nice
to win the Tour, but this year was
special simply because I broke
the record and made history."
Armstrong received 51
first-place votes and 312 total

points.
Indianapolis Colts quarterback
Peyton Manning was second with

Peyton Manning was second with 17 first-place votes and 156 points.

The voting reflected Armstrong's return to dominating form in an event where he separated himself so far from the pack there was little question of the out-

In 2003, Armstrong struggled to win his fifth Tour de France, capturing cycling's premier event and one of the world's most grueling sporting events by a mere 61 seconds.

It was also the year he got divorced, and he acknowledged that he struggled to balance the pressures of his personal and professional lives. Yet the 33-year-old Texan stormed back in 2004 with arguably his best U.S. Postal Service team and his best individual performance on the bike. He won five individual stages and a sixth with a team time trial in France.

"I certainly feel like I recovered my true strengths. I haven't felt as in control of a Tour as this year," Armstrong said.

While other top riders and rivals such as Tyler Hamilton and Jan Ullrich withered during the punishing race, Armstrong pow-

But as dominant as Armstrong was in France, he has yet to commit to going for a seventh title next year. He promises to race again in the Tour de France before he retires, but won't say if it will be next year or 2006

Armstrong says he's ready to pursue other challenges in rac-

He has dedicated most of his cycling life to the Tour, leaving little room for such Classic races as the Spanish Vuelta, the Paris-Roubaix or Fleche Wallone, which he won in 1996 shortly before being diagnosed with testicular cancer.

But he also knows that it's the Tour de France his American fans want to see him win.

"I could win the Tour of Flanders and I wouldn't win AP Athlete of the Year," he said. Armstrong and his team —

Armstrong and his team which has a new sponsor with the Discovery Channel — will release their schedule in January. Armstrong won't say if he'll race the Tour de France until May.

Whatever his choice, it will be all or nothing. It won't be a case of him riding to help someone else on his team win.

"If I'm going to ride, I'm riding to win. I'm not going to suffer for three weeks not to win," he said. "I've gotten too used to standing on the Champs Elysees at the end."



Notable sports deaths in 2004

Jan. 1 — John Franks, 78, a four-time winner of the Eclipse Award as North America's outstanding thorough-bred owner. Franks won the Eclipse in 1983, 1984, 1993 and 1994.

bred owner. Franks won the clipse in 1964, 2004, 1979.

Jan 2. Paul Hopkins, 99, the Inter who gave up, a record-lying home run to Babe Buth in 1927, Hopkins pitched just two seasons, making his major Reguest of the seasons, and the seasons are made in the first his his record-lying 50th home of the season.

Jan 3 — Leow Magner, 63, an outlieder who hit 21 home runs during a 12-year major league career. Wagners of the season where he pelayed in 1955-99 and again in 1959. Wagner starred for the Los Angeles Angels in their first three years of existence from 1961-43 better being traded to

years of existence from 1961-63 before being traded to Cleveland.

Jan. 4 — James E. "Doc" Counsilman, 83, coached Indi-ana to six NCAA swimming championships. Counsilman guided the Hoosiers to 20 consecutive Big Ten titles and six straight national championships from 1968-74. He coached 48 Olympians from nine countries, including 26 notic modal winners.

coached 48 Dympians from nine countries, micruoung zo gold-medal winners.

Jan. 5 — Charles Bumas, 66, an Olympic gold medallist who was the first high jumper to clear 7 feet. Dumas cleared 7-0½ in the 1956 Olympic Trials at the Los Ange-les Colseum, He went on to win a gold medal in the

n the Meibourne Olympics. 5 — **Tug McGraw**, 59, the zany relief pitcher who the phrase "You Gotta Believe" with the New World Series teams during his 19-year career, posting a 3-3 record with eight saves and a 2.23 ERA in 26 postsea.

son games. The New Jersey Net-first, and radia Che 1934. The New Jersey Net-first, and radia Che 1934. The York Question Her-played 110 games in four seasons with the Nets, averag-ing 21 points and 26 rebounds. Jan. 17 — Harry The Cart Betcheen, 39, the former St. Jan. 17 — Harry The Cart Betcheen, 39, the former St. Jan. 18 — Her St. Louis 1934. The St. Louis 1934 of the New York Chemistry 1934. The New York Chemistry 1934 of the New York Chemistry 1934 of

11 Seasons with the Cardinals and one with the St. Louis Mrd. 3— Does Marrine, 64, the NTLY second-holder for carrier interceptions by a limbulation. Shimster, who had a played on NTL little area in 1928 and 1928 of 1928 o

won a record four gold mediate in track and field in the face of the property of the property

5.00 vicories, died from Injurés în 3 spill at Turkouy 15 pf (s) fig. M. pf (s) f

hicago Cubs.

Feb. 17 — Shirley Strickland de la Hunty, 78, Australia's sest prolific Olympic track medalist. Competing as Shirleys and Source Olympic track medalist. Olympic titles. She won the 80-meter hurdles at Hels in 1952 and defended her title in the 1956 Melbou in 1952 and defended her title in the 1955 Melbourne Games, Her seven Olympic medals included three golds Feb. 22 — Andy Seminick, 83. a catcher on the 1950 Phil-adelphia Phillies team that won the NL pennant. Semin-ick spent 12 seasons with the Phillies and three with Cin-cinnati. During the championship season, Seminick bat-ted .288 with 24 home runs and 68 RBIs.

March 2 — Marge Schott, 75, the tough-talking, chain-smoking owner of the Cincinnati Reds who won a World Series and was repeatedly suspended for offen-

sive remarks.

March 6 — Val Pinchbeck Jr., 73, a longtime NFL executive who was once one of Pete Rozelle's chief advisors

tive who was once one of Peter Rozelle's chief advisers Princhbeck was the NTL's head of broadcasting and was Princhbeck was the NTL's head of broadcasting and was the schodlen etworks and instrumental in assembling the schodlen etworks and instrumental in assembling the school of the school of the school of the rings in the NFL As coach of the Falcons from 196-63 the School of the School of the School of the Lombard in the 1960s, then coached defensive backs and linebackers at San Francisco during four charged and linebackers at San Francisco during four charged to the school of schoo

snip seasons, Hecker also won a ring as a detensive back and receiver for the 1951 Los Angeles Rams, March 18 — **Gene Bearden**, 83, a Knuckleballer who

out of the "General Bandens of the "General General Ge



Mourners line up to sign a memory board outside a funeral home in Charlotte, N.C., during a public visitation held for ex-NFL great Reggie White, who died Dec. 26 at age 43.

April 6 — Gene Karst, 97, baseball's first-ever public re-lations official when he worked with the St. Louis Cardi-nals' "Gas House Gang" of the 1930s. In 1931, Karst was hired to write features about the Cardinals for small-from newspaners.

ninet to write teatures and account of control with a control with

Laker Placto Gympic Cognizing Committee for the 1500 April 22 Pat Tillman, 27, Arizona Cardinal safely who traded in a multimillion-dollar contract to serve as an Army Ranger in Afghanistan. He was killed in action.
April 30 — Joseph Cullman, 92, a former chairman of April 30 — Joseph Cullman, 92, a former chairman of Sidered a ploneer of women's tennis, helping start a women's pro tour in 1970. Cullman became president of the Hall of Fame in 1982 and was chairman from

185-1988. May 3 — **Darrell Johnson**, 75, managed the Boston Red ox to the World Series in 1975. Johnson went 220-188 Sox to the World Series in 1975. Johnson went 220-188 during 2½ seasons with the Red Sox from 1974-76. Johnson also managed the Seattle Mariners from 1974-76. Ording 1977-89, compling a 225-32 record, and was 26-40 during 1977-89. The Sox of the Sox of

teles for the Royal Tennis Club in the 1940s, a record that May 1.6.— Im Cockoops, 85, original member of the Botton Patricis and one of the Loop receivers in franchise that the control of the Cockoops of t

Steelers from 1902-1906, maning in the Total Steelers from 1902-1906, maning in the Total Steelers from 1902 from 19

Footby in Java's and Steve Biddlock, As coach of the Filliam Woodley wom the connectivity. With A reads and find in a blood level with the connectivity. With A reads and find in a blood championships. May 27. — Jack Lesch, 69, a mem who went not to big in the Wit.

James 9 — Right Meedy, 86, an acting pioneer and stat of the connectivity of the Connectivity of the With A reads and the Connectivity of th

tles, July 3 — Carl James, 75, former Big Eight commissioner and Duke and Maryland athletic director, James became over a commissioner of the Big Eight Conference in 1980. He retired in 1996 after helping to add four Texas schools to what became the Big I Conference. On the Conference in 1996 after helping to add four Texas schools to what became the Big I Conference. On the Conference in 1996 and 1997 and 1997 are the Conference of the Con

July 3 — Budy LaBusso, 56, a five-time NBA All-star with each of the charly 1960s. A forward, the started with the Labri in the early 1960s. A forward, the started with the Labri in the early 1960s. A forward, the started with the Labri in 1960s. The charles of the started with the Labri in 1960s. The charles of the started with the Labri in 1960s. The charles of the started with the charles of the charles o

dorsed. July 24 — Lowell "Cotton" Fitzsimmons, 72, winner of 822 games in 21 seasons as an NBA coach. Fitzsimmons as an NBA coaching stirts with Phoenix, Atlanta, Buffalo, Kansas City and Saan Antonion. He had a 822-775 (5.18) record July 24 — Ben Martin, 83, notball coach at the Air Force Academy from 1958-77. He led the team to the 1959 cotton Bowl, where the team tied Texas Christian 0-0. Cotton Bowl, where the team tied Toxas Christian 10-4 Under Martin, Air Force went 96-10-39 and also appeared in the 193G Gator Bowl and 1970 Sugar Bowl. July 26 - Ruben Gomez, 77, winner of baseball's first regular-season game on the West Coast as San Fran-cisco beat Don Drysdale and the visiting Los Angeles Dodgers 8-0 on April 15, 1958. The right-hander was 76-86 with a 4,05 ERA for the Glants.

bodgers \$4.0 m April 15, 1968. The right-hander was \$7.6 m April 16, 1969. The right-hander was \$7.6 m April 1

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Olympiks in Innsbruck, Austria.
Aug. 23 – Hank Borowy, 88, the last pitcher to get four decisions in a World Series. Borowy helped pitch the New York Yankees to the 1943 World Series champion ship and two years later went 2-2 with the Chicago Cubs In 1945, he pitched a shutout against Detroit in Game 1. then was knocked out in the first inning of the decidin game at Wrigley Field. The right-hander was 108-82 wit a 3.50 ERA from 1942-51 with the Yankees, Cubs. Philade

phia Phillies, Pittsburgh and Detroit. 50, 5 — John "Red" Cochran, 82, a scout and former NFL player and assistant coach who spent 42 years with the Green Bay Packers, Originally brought to Green Bay by Vince Lombard in 1959, Cochran worked 12 years as by Vince Lombardi in 1959, Cochran worked 12 years as an assistant for the Packers and the last 30 as a scout. Sept. 9 — Rosie Gacioch, 89, female baseball pioneer Gacioch joined the All-American Girls Baseball League in 1944 and played for the Rockford Peaches from 1945-54 ble det the league in triples in 1946 as an outfielder and

became a pitcher in 1948, winning 20 games in 1951. Sept. 13 — **Tamas Szechy**, 73, Hungarian swimming coach. Szechy's swimmers won 15 Olympic medals. Be-tween 1972 and the 1996 Atlanta Games, swimmers trained by Szechy won eight Olympic gold medals, fou silver and three bronze. In world championships be tween 1973 and 1998, his swimmers won 21 medals, in

tween 1973 and 1998, his awritines around a cidding 12 golds. Sept. 13 — Gleen Presnell, 99, starred for the Detroit Lions in the 1993s and later spent 28 years as a football coach and athietic director at Eastern Kentucky. Sept. 23 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. Sept. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. 25 — Billy Reay, 65, a player on two Stanley Cup. 25 coach in Chicago Blackflowks 1830 y. Reay became the Blackhawks coach in 1831 after the Blackhawks coach in 1831 after the Blackhawks coach in 1831 after the Blackhawks coach in 1841 after the Blackhawks coach in 1841 after the Blackhawks coach after the Blackhawks and wade three appearances in the Stanley Cup finals. Reay played 10 seasons in the NHt, two with the Detroit Red Wings and eight with Montreal, and helped the team win the Stanley Cup in 1946 and 1951 after 1841 and 1841 a Sept. 26 — **Dean Kutz**, 48, a jockey who rode more than 2,800 winners during almost 30 years at tracks in the Upper Midwest and Kentucky, Kutz won 2,835 races and his mounts earned more than 333,6 million.

Sept. 28 — Lewis A. Roney, 82, a member of Wyoming's Sept. 28 — Lewis A. Roney, 82, a member of the 1934 (Lewi that the cert in 1942 and was a member of the 1934 (Lewi that

sered in 1942 and was a member of the 1945 learnt that worst 32-2 and beat Governebown for the national title, we will 32-2 and beat Governebown for the national title, pic gold medial skiner for Germany. Cranz won 12 world 1-flee and three silver medials, along with two polds in the learness of the 1942 for the 194

the leading folded in 1554, she attended West Chejete Pull-ger and learnose teams. See all the leading seed of the seed of th

land.
Oct. 2 — Norm Schachter, 90, refereed the first Super Bowl and the first "Monday Night Footbal" game. His NFL carere began in 1954 when commissioner Bert Bell hired him at \$100 a game with a guarantee of seven games. The weekend job went on to last 22 years, He worked three Super Bowls and 11 conference champion-

gardes, the evenese of the conference characteristic parts of the evenese of the conference characteristic parts of the conference char Player who later admitted using assessment and played major league baseball career. His 15-year career ended in 2001, five seasons after he led the Padres to a division title and was an unanimous pick for MVP. Caminiti bat ted .272 with 239 homers and 983 RBIs with Houston, San

eu 2.12 with 239 nomers and 983 RBIS with Houston, San lego, Texas and Atlanta. Oct. 12 — **Tommy Kalmanir**, 78, a starting halfback on ne 1951 Los Angeles Rams championship team and Dego, Texas, and Allayria.

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win the pennant in 1996, reveal was the healthing crown, Nov. 5 — Al Onofrio, 83, former football coach at Mis-souri who also helped design defenses for Dan Devine's teams from 1958-70, a stretch in which the Tigers went 93-37-7, won two Big Eight titles and made six bowl ap-pearances. Onofrio succeeded Devine, going 38-41 from

pearances. Onomo successes summers, and the summers of the summers

Championship, Harper won's 10 other PGA Tour events, fine-hear of the 150 per 150 per

minutes, 1.4 secohüs, which remained until Bannister fin-ished in 359.4 nine years latt. who twice led the Nation-al League in saves during the 1960s. Abernathy picked up 148 saves during a career from 1955-1972. He had a 63-69 record and 3.46 ERA and had a league-leading 31 saves with the Chicago Cubs in 1966. He had 28 saves and a 1.27 EAA two Seasons later with the Chicinnast

and a 127 ERA two Sessions stare with the Cincinnal Reg. 2.4 — Jahrup sches. St. annaged the Texas Bargers 5. their lifst three postsesson appearances. Oales spend six session, with the Barquer, judicity from 10 million scheme 1991. As the Control of the Contro



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Conquest: Sox go from doldrums to delirium

CONQUEST, FROM BACK PAGE

"I just want to get some kids up herel" activities coordinator Lisa Scherber shouted as the patients, too young to understand, watched their parents pose for pictures with the prize. "We've got a lot of adults."

adults."

The World Series trophy has been a much-welcomed and well-traveled guest this offseason. And how it got to be that way is the sports story of the year, according to a vote by the newspaper and broadcast members of The Associated Press.

Boston's first World Series title since 1918 and the unprecedented comeback against the Yankees that made it possible was a runaway winner with 108 first-place votes and 1,325 points.

Lance Armstrong's sixth straight Tour de France title (seven first-place votes, 785 points) finished second and the Indiana Pacers-Detroit Pistons brawl was third (six first-place votes, 662 points).

The New England Patriots' Super Bowl victory and 21-game winning streak was next (zero first-place votes, 498 points), followed by sports' steroid stories (eight first-place votes, 495 points).

Merely winning the Series after an 86-year drought probably would have been enough to make the Red Sox the year's top story.



The New York Yankees won the offseason bidding war for super-star shortstop Alex Rodriguez, above, who was the focal point of a midseason brawl at Fernway Park. But the Red Sox ultimately prevailed by eliminating the Yankees in a historic comeback in the AL championship series.

But the way they did it was one

for the ages.

After falling five outs short of the World Series last year and firing their manager because of it, the Red Sox acquired Curt Schilling, the top starting pitcher on the market, and Keith Foulke, the top

Their pursuit of Alex Rodriguez
– a deal that would have involved
unloading Nomar Garciaparra
and Manny Ramirez — ended late
in 2003. But before spring training got started the reigning AL
MVP went to the hated Yankees
— thanks in part to the groundwork the Red Sox had done

It seemed like Boston would be New York's runner-up once again. The Red Sox played. 500 ball for most of the year, prompting general manager Theo Epstein to trade Garciaparra for shortstop Orlando Cabrera and spare parts Dave Roberts and Doug Mientkiewicz.

But the regular season was, as expected, merely the undercard for a Red Sox-Yankees playoff rematch; for the seventh consecutive year, Boston finished second to New York in the AL East.

The only indication that things might be different this year was that the Red Sox won 11 of 19 meetings between the teams during the regular season — Boston's first edge in the season series since 1999.

Boston swept Anaheim in the first round, with designated hitter David Ortiz — "Papi" — hitting a clinching homer in the 10th inning of Game 3. But the Red Sox just as quickly fell behind the Yankees 3-0 in the AL championship series.

No major league team had rallied from a 3-0 deficit to even tie a seven-game series, let alone win it. But the Red Sox, self-proclaimed "idiots," insisted they were too stupid to be intimidated by the gravity of their predica-

ment.
Things got more dire when the Yankees took a 4-3 lead into the inith inning of the fourth game, with star closer Mariano Rivera on the mound. But he walked Kevin Millar and Roberts, pinch running, stole second before Bill Mueller singled to tie it.

Boston won in the 12th on Or-



AP

Boston Red Sox catcher Jason Varitek celebrates the team's first World

Series championship since 1918 with pitcher Keith Foulke (29).

tiz's homer, then won Game 5 less than 24 hours later on his 14th-inning single. The series moved back to Yankee Stadium, where

2003 had ended so disastrously.
The Red Sox sent Schilling to the mound only after season-ending surgery was postponed in favor of a radical and unprecedented procedure to keep him in the rotation. After testing the technique on a cadaver, Dr. Bill Morgan stitched a loose tendon in Schilling's right ankle in place so

it wouldn't flop around when he pitched.

With blood soaking through his sock, Schilling beat the Yankees and forced a seventh game. But the only pitcher the Red Sox had left was Derek Lowe, who pitched so poorly in the regular season that he was bumped from the playoff rotation.

Lowe pitched six innings of one-hit ball, Ortiz homered and Johnny Damon hit a grand slam to help Boston open a 10-3 lead — too big even for the Red Sox to blow.

They were going to the World

Their NL opponent was a familiar one: The St. Louis Cardinals had beaten Boston in the 1946 Series and again in '67, both times in seven games. Red Sox fans wondered whether the Series would be a letdown after the emotional victory over the Yankees, and they were right.

The Cardinals failed to put up a

The Cardinals failed to put up a fight this time and the Red Sox would soon be celebrating a sweep in Busch Stadium. Millions turned out for the victory parade as it drove through Boston and into the Charles River on amphibious vehicles.

Those who couldn't see the trophy at the "rolling rally" might still get their chance. The Red Sox promise to bring it to every one of the 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts that asks.

If it makes it that long: Already, two of the flags on the trophy have come loose and need to be fixed. But the Red Sox can't bring themselves to take it out of commission that long.

"Just about everywhere I go, people get very emotional. These people have been waiting a lot longer than I have," said Bill Mullaly, a 30-year-old Red Sox security guard who escorts the trophy on many of its visits.

"It's had a huge impact on people. It's made them feel good."



Boston's improbable triumph this fall got plenty of attention outside the sports world.

N.Y.-Boston rivalry serves up top quotes of 2004

COMPILED BY MARY ELLEN WILLIAMS

The Associated Press

"All empires fall sooner or later."— Red Sox President Larry Lucchino after Boston beat the New York Yankees in the AL championship series. Boston became the first major league team to overcome a 3-0 deficit in the postseason, and went on to win its first World Series championship since 1918.

"I always make the front page." — Terrell Owens, asked if he was surprised his steamy segment with Nicollette Sheridan on the opening of "Monday Night Football" created such a stir.

"I haven't worked this hard since I was a young guy 25 years ago." — NHL referee Bill McCreary, who took a temporary job installing kitchen cabinets during the hockey lockout.

"I made a mistake. I was blinded by this opportunity. But I do be doing them a disservice and myself a disservice. Right now I just can't bring it. I looked at myself and thought that I was a phony. I realized they weren't getting the guy they hired. I'm not fit enough for this job for my standards."

— Rick Majerus, after backing out of the Southern California men's basketball job.

"In sports, we have a tendency to overuse terms like 'courage' and 'bravery' and 'heroes,' and then someone like Pat Tillman comes along and reminds us what those terms really mean." — Arizona Cardinals vice president Michael Bidwill on Pat Tillman, killed in Afghanistan after leaving the NFL to join the Army Rangers.

"Even for me, it seems very

strange." — Barry Sanders on Ricky Williams' decision to quit football at age 27. Sanders suddenly retired before the 1999 season while the NFL career rushing record was within range.

"I fell in love with the way they played, the way they walked, the way they talked, the way they took the field, the way they scored points. ... When coach Spurrier had this thing cranked up, everyone stopped what they were doing and watched Florida play." — New Florida coach Urban Mever.

"I think some of the payrolls are on steroids." — Milwaukee General Manager Doug Melvin, whose Brewers ranked next-to-last in player salaries.

"It's a dud, just like the Cubs were."

 Police spokesman Pat Camden after a grenade was found by a worker at Wrigley Field. The grenade was harmless.

"I'm not sure I can think of any scenario more enjoyable than making \$5,000 people from New York shut up." — Red Sox ace Curt Schilling, a day before the Yankees pounded him in Game 1 of the ALCS.

"What can I say? Just tip my hat and call the Yankees my daddy. I can't find a way to beat them at this point." — Boston pitcher Pedro Martinez after losing a late lead against New York in the regular season.

"They're like a bag of prawns on a hot Sunday. They don't travel well."— Australia's Stuart Appleby on American golfers who had to fly overseas for tournaments.

2004: The year sports went to the extremes

2004, FROM BACK PAGE

"Roger just played too good today, Andy Roddick said after losing to Federer in the Wimble-don final. "I threw the kitchen sink at him, but he went to the bathroom and got a tub."

Singh and Federer weren't huge shocks to rise to the top of their sports after their strong play in the past, but to win on the scale they did was extraordinary.

There was far less surprise in seeing Lance Armstrong pedal to a record sixth straight Tour de France, Michael Schumacher win a seventh Formula One title or Kurt Busch capture NASCAR's Nextel Cup in a new championship format.

Nor, despite their advanced age, was there astonishment in seeing Roger Clemens win a record seventh Cy Young award or Barry Bonds join Babe Ruth and Hank Aaron in the 700-homer club while winning a record seventh MVP Award.

Clemens retired from the Yankees, unretired in a hurry for his hometown Houston Astros, and had one of his finest seasons Bonds shrugged off a federal grand jury appearance, a thousand questions about steroids and the arrest of his personal trainer in the BALCO case, and, at 40, had a career year by anyone's

They, like Ichiro Suzuki, whose record 262 hits broke George Sisler's 84-year-old mark, gave the season a golden hue

Michael Phelps imposed himself in such a way at the Athens Olympics, winning eight medals, six of them gold and none a surprise. If Phelps didn't quite match Mark Spitz's record haul of seven individual golds in 1972, he still ruled the pool as no other man since then

Morocco's Hicham El Guerrouj, the world's greatest middle-distance runner, elevated the Games by winning the 1,500 gold after failing twice before, then added the 5,000 - a double that hadn't been accomplished since Paavo Nurmi did it in 1924.

Argentina pulled the upset of the Games, winning the gold in men's baskethall while a humiliated U.S. team, booed in Greece and lambasted at home, settled for bronze

It was a year to take pleasure in the overachievement of little Saint Joseph's, No. 1 in the men's basketball poll, and to cheer for Smarty Jones, the Seabiscuit of our times. Smarty Jones won millions of fans in his bid for the Triple Crown, and they loved him still even when he came up a length short in the Belmont.

Witnessing Peyton Manning eclipse Dan Marino's season TD passing mark — 48 in 1984 — has been a wonder to watch, especially seeing him doing it with noise and class and none of the phony celebrations that some players have displayed to grab attention.

"I thought 48 was something no one would touch or get close to. Marino said.

We needed all those good times to get us past the embarrass-ments, scandals and violence that permeated the sports landscape.

Images of the year: The good, the bad and the ugly

Switzerland's Roger Federer, right, won three Grand Slam tennis events and Fiii's Vijay Singh below, won 10 golf tournaments. including the PGA





Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning, above, broke Dan Marino's 20-year-old record for touchdown passes in a season. Manning has 49 entering the regular-season finale on Sunday.

Indiana Pacers' Ron Artest, right triggered a brawl in the stands at Detroit last month that was as frightening as anything seen in sports. NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman, below, is presiding over a lockout that is threatening to erase an entire season.

AP photos







While BALCO founder Victor Conte, above, fought off accusations of distributing steroids to elite athletes, Barry Bonds, right, joined the 700 home run club.

Janet Jackson's "wardrobe malfunction" in the Super Bowl halftime show, exposing her right breast to an audience of 90 million, brought a wave of condemnation, but more serious matters blew through the seasons

After 15 years of denials, Pete Rose admitted to betting on basehall and his own Cincinnati Reds. but he remained banned from the game and ineligible for the place that would otherwise surely be his in the Hall of Fame

There were the allegations of rapes and sexual favors for football recruits at the University of Colorado, which made far more of a splash when they came out than when they were dismissed as unfounded

There was the sexual assault

case against Kobe Bryant that was nightly news until the prosecution dropped the charges when his accuser said she did not want to participate in the trial. The 26-year-old Los Angeles Lakers star has said the sex was consensual, but the woman is pursuing damages in a civil case

Meanwhile, nothing has slowed down Bryant on the court, not

uille O'Neal, the departure of coach Phil Jackson, and a Lakers lineup that is a shadow of what it once was.

Hockey wasn't even a shadow. The NHL was shut down, possibly for the 2004-05 season and bevond, when team owners locked out the players to press their demands for a salary cap.

The BALCO investigation, which began the summer before last, goes on still, with recent allegations by the company's founder that he was secretly juicing up the world's fastest couple, Marion Jones and Tim Montgomery, among others in the Olympics, baseball and the NFL.

"It's embarrassing to baseball," one player, Jeff Kent, said of the continuing steroid saga.

For all the sensationalist headlines and federal grand jury leaks, baseball attendance stayed high, except in Montreal, which lost the Expos to Washington, D.C., the first team to move since the Senators became the Texas Rangers in 1971.

The Athens Olympics were also unfazed even as steroids touched the Games from the start, when the top two Greek runners. Kostis Kenteris and Katerina Thanou. faked a motorcycle accident to avoid drug testers. Two dozen athletes got busted for drugs - more than twice the number at Sydney four years earlier - yet that was hailed as a success.

"These were the Games where it became increasingly difficult to cheat and where clean athletes were better protected," IOC chief Jacques Rogge said during the closing ceremony.

They were also the Games that saw Mia Hamm, perhaps the most influential woman in sports since Billie Jean King, retire after leading the U.S. women's soccer team to a gold medal. And they were the Games that saw American Paul Hamm win gymnastics gold when the judges miscalculated the score of a South Korean rival.

Agreeing on a winner continued to elude college football. which once again had a split national championship when Southern California won one trophy and LSU another. And more argument loomed as the year ended, with three teams from major conferences — Southern Cal. Oklahoma and Auburn — undefeated going into the holiday bowl games.

There were more player-fan confrontations in sports, from baseball to basketball, none uglier than the Malice in the Palace between several Indiana Pacers and fans of the Detroit Pistons.

Ron Artest, the first player in that brawl to charge into the stands after a drink was thrown at him, had wanted time off to promote his CD. Now he has the rest of the season off.

Artest became the symbol of some of what is wrong in professional sports, corrupted by too much money, too many untamed egos, too much alcohol. Still, sports are society's escape and a reflection of its values. They have the power to raise aspirations, change lives and cut us down to size, and they did all that this year perhaps more than ever before.

SPORTS

Male, female athletes of the year, Page 39 Notable deaths, Page 40



2004: Trials, tribulations and triumph

From Sox to scandal, this year was extraordinary

The Associated Press

ure shots, long shots and once-in-a-lifetime shots — 2004 had them all.

It was an over-the-top, out-of-control year, sensational in both its glorious and scandalous senses.

Halley's Comet comes around every 76 years. The Boston Red Sox hadn't won the World Series in 86 years.

Nobody ever won a World Series or even a league championship down 0-3 in games, much less three outs from a sweep

A gutsy bettor with blind faith in the Red Sox could have made millions plunking down dough on them at that particularly bleak moment when a sweep by their ancient and annual enemy, the New York Yankees, seemed inevitable.

It took a self-proclaimed team of "idiots," undaunted by history or curses, to flip fate around and make 2004 one of the greatest vintage years of sports.

There is no more enduring image of the year - what it took to win and what it meant to those who did - than the bloodstained sock of Curt Schilling. It gave new meaning to Red Sox and belongs in the Hall of Fame.

Stitched to pitch, Schilling inspired his teammates and lifted the suffering generations of Red Sox Nation scattered around the globe. It was a medical miracle, if not a heavenly one, the very opposite of what Boston's

millions did. even if they feared down to the last out that something, somehow would go wrong as it always had since 1918.

Yet Schilling delivered and David Ortiz, Manny Ramirez, Jason Varitek, Johnny Damon, Kevin Millar, Orlando Cabrera and the others did the rest, stunning the Yankees and sweeping the St. Louis Cardinals in the





Deion Branch (83) and the New England Patriots celebrated a 21-game winning streak and the team's second Super Bowl victory in three seasons. Lance Armstrong (right), selected as The Associated Press' male athlete of the year for the third consecutive year, became the only six-time winner of the Tour de France in July.

"All empires fall sooner or later," Red Sox President Larry Lucchino said after the Yan-kees became the first baseball team to lose a seven-game series after leading 3-0.

"1918 is gone forever," Boston outfielder Trot Nixon said when the Series ended. "We're not going to have to hear about that

again He was wrong, though in a good way. These Red Sox will hear forever how they broke the so-called Curse of the Bambi-

Roll back the calendar to Jan. 1 and imagine betting on the New England Patriots to win the Super Rowl en route to an

Boston Red Sox to sweep the World Series in the same year. What would you have won if you parlayed those with bets on the starless Detroit Pistons to win the NBA title and the Sunshine State's Tampa Bay Lightning to win the Stanley Cup?

What if, along the way, you ran up the winnings by betting that one school would win the men's and women's Final Four in basketball. No school ever had. Connecticut did.

And what were the odds back then that Vijay Singh would win nine times in the year, become golf's first \$10 million man, and replace Tiger Woods as No. 1 in the world?

Or that Switzerland's Roger Federer, uncoached, would become the first man since 1988 to win Grand Slam tennis ti-

SFF 2004 ON



was etched into baseball lore when Boston's ace won two playoff games, including Game 6 of the ALCS, after eschewing season-ending ankle surgery.

Boston's conquest is one for the ages

BY JIMMY GOLEN The Associated Press

There was no Commissioner's Trophy the last time the Boston Red Sox won the World

No commissioner, in fact. So when the Red Sox won it all for the first time since 1918. they didn't think it would be right to stick their trophy on a shelf somewhere to gather

Instead, they took it to every state in New England, to a fan hangout in California and the team's academy in the Dominican Republic, to Christmas tree lightings and churches and nursing homes, where oc-togenarians have waited all their lives to see their favorite team win just once.

At the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, where they treat sick children thanks in part to the Red Sox and the Jimmy Fund, the trophy caused such a hubbub when pitcher Tim Wakefield brought it by last week that order, finally, had to be re-

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Grand Slam titles 3
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Wisconsin stuffs Alabama's high-octane offense, extends home winning streak to 36





LeBron injured in Cavs' loss to Rockets Page 38



Roston's David Ortiz deliv-

and 6 of the ALCS.

ered walk-off hits in Games 5

Ohio State gets a respite from a season of turmoil in the Alamo Bowl

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